January 16th—22nd, 1986, No. 2

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THE Fisherman

—THE LONG ISLAND, METROPOLITAN NEW YORK EDITION—

Volume 21, Number 2 January 16th, 1986

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ABOUT THE COVER:

Plenty of big blues and a record number of big stripers helped make the 1985 segment of the New York Surf Fishing Contest a memorable one. A summary of the contest begins on page 16. The cow on the cover was beached east of Shinnecock in late November. Cover by Dick Mermon.

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GEORGES BANK FISHERY MANAGEMENT

On October 12, 1984, the International Court of Justice in the Hague, Netherlands, announced its decision establishing a new maritime boundary in the Gulf of Maine between the United States and Canada. The decision of the International Court of Justice (or World Court) settled a 20-year territorial dispute over Georges Bank, one of the world's most productive fishing grounds.

The World Court's decision has had an immediate impact on the fishing industries of the two nations. Fishermen from both the United States and Canada have been forced to leave grounds they had previously been able to fish. This has placed a burden on fishermen from Massachusetts to Nova Scotia, many of whom wish to regain acess to lost waters.

The long-range implications of the new boundary are as yet unknown. However, a number of economic and resource related questions affecting the fishing industry have been brought into focus by this territorial dispute. An excellent review of these questions is provided by Joshua Lipton in the recent article "Georges Bank: Will Both Sides Toe the Line?" (Nexus, Vol. 7, No. 3, Summer 1985.)

The Northwest Atlantic fishing industry is being confronted by a number of problems which threaten its future economic viabiltiy. The maritime boundary dispute on Georges Bank, questions of access to the fishery, the trade war over exports of Canadian fish to the United States, and increased operating costs have placed a severe burden on fishermen; a burden which has been greatly intensified by depletion of the marine resources on Georges Bank. The strain on the resource is being further exacerbated by fishermen who, in striving to make a living in the face of unfavorable economic conditions, continue to deplete the fishery. It is important, however, that the economic difficulties being faced by the fishery today do not eclipse the larger need for long-term management.

Both Canada and the United States rely on the natural resources of Georges Bank. Yet, even with a clear maritime boundary, neither nation can effectively manage its share of the resource in isolation.

The physical and biological elements of the system do not respect the line drawn on the map of Georges Bank. Canadians and Americans must therefore endeavor to manage this common fishery cooperatively, looking beyond short term economic frictions toward common long-term goals.

This sentiment is being echoed by many members of both the Canadian and United States fishing industries and informal discussions have begun to be held on a number of levels. But at present, the future of the Georges Bank fisheries and the role of fishery management remains unclear.

BABYLON TUNA CLUB ELECTS NEW OFFICERS

The following officers for 1986 were elected at the Babylon Tuna Club's December meeting:

President: Ed Torkildsen; Vice President: Ray Seagren; Treasurer: George Huggler; Secretary: John Gremmo; Membership: Phil Scherer; Corr. Sec'y: Fred Guardineer; and Sergeant at Arms: Charlie Zembrzycki.

The membership would like to thank the outgoing officers for the fine job they did in 1985.

Persons who like to fish and support their club may obtain application information by writing to: Babylon Tuna Club, Attn: Phil Scherer, P.O. Box 123, Babylon, New York 11702.

NOAA STUDY FINDS TUNA MAY USE MAGNETIC SENSE TO MIGRATE

The University of Hawaii and the National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) have found that yellowfin tuna sense magnetic forces on the ocean floor that may guide them in their migrations across the eastern Pacific Ocean.

Fishery biologists at the University and NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service found that the tuna contain as many as ten million magneitc crystals of the black iron mineral magnetite in their skull bones and may use it to navigate during migration.

Biologists at the Commerce Department agency think that the fish use the magnetite like a compass, determining both their location and the direction to take in relation to the sea floor's magnetic field.

At mid-oceanic ridges, molten rock wells up through the sea floor and leaves mineral deposits that become magnetized and align themselves with the earth's magnetic north pole. However, because the magnetic field changes over time, older minerals are aligned with the magnetic south, creating "magnetic avenues" in both directions.

Biologists believe the yellowfin use their magnetite as a map to detect these avenues and measure their angle from the North Pole and the Equator while migrating.

Biologists know from tagging data that yellowfin tuna migrate as many as 3,800 miles from the Fiji Islands toward Central America. Combining

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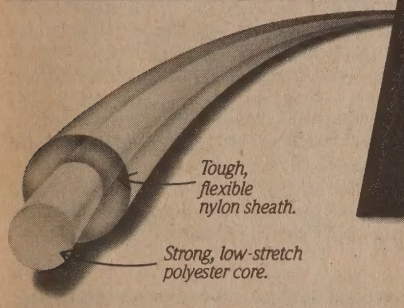

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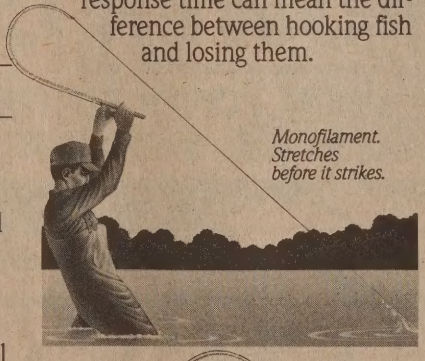

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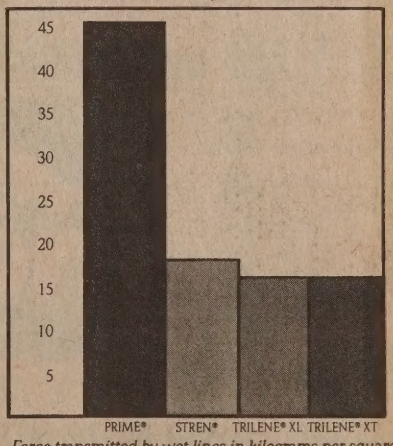

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this data with information detailing the ocean floor's magnetic features enables scientists to predict where these tropical fish migrate.

"This information is a major step in allowing us to distinguish among the various stocks of tuna in the Pacific and determine if there are similarities in their migratory behavior," Richard Brill, fishery biologist at the Fisheries Service's Honolulu laboratory said.

About 221 million pounds of yellowfin, valued at more than $110 million, were landed in the United States last year.

Also, the study will cover skipjack and kawakawa tuna, and will try to determine the minimal change that the fish can detect in the earth's magnetic field.

SAFE BOATING COURSES AT SEAFORD AND BETHPAGE

In the tradition of the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary promoting boating safety, Flotilla 13-8, Wantagh, Long Island is holding a boating safety course at the following locations:

Seaford H.S., Seaford, a 12 lesson Boating Skills and Seamanship. Registration January 21, 22 and 23 from 7:30 to 9:30 PM. First class starts on January 28th.

Bethpage H.S., Bethpage, 12 lesson Boating Skills and Seamanship. Registration on January 27th and 29th at Bethpage H.S. from 7:30 to 9:30 PM. First class starts on February 4th.

Additionally, we will be giving the New York State Young Boatsman Course for those between the ages of 10 and 16. This course will be offered free of charge.

The Boating Skills and Seamanship course for those over 16 years of age will have a slight fee to cover the cost of course material distributed.

FLOTILLA 1-5 IN BAY SHORE PRESENTS BOATING COURSES

With the holiday season behind us, it is once again time to look forward to an enjoyable and safe boating season. Flotilla 1-5 of the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, located in Bay Shore, is presenting two public education courses this spring.

Beginning on Tuesday, January 14th, instruction will be given in Boating Skills and Seamanship for our powerboating friends, and for our sailing friends we will be presenting the principles of sailing.

The classes will be presented on Tuesday evenings from 7:30 PM to 10PM for a period of 13 weeks. Classes are held at the Bay Shore Junior High School on Brook Avenue just north of Sunrise Highway and west of the South Shore Mall.

Many boating subjects will be covered including boat handling, rules of the road, piloting, aids to navigation and legal requirements, just to name a few. There is a nominal fee to cover the cost of text and homework books which are yours to keep.

Registration and first class will be on Tuesday, Jan. 14th at 7PM at the Junior High School Little Theater.

For further information call Steve Butcher, Flotilla Public Education Officer, evenings, at (516) 665-1107.

ATLANTIS ANGLERS ELECTS BRIDGE TO PILOT 1986 FISHING SEASON

The following members were elected to hold office and steer the club through its active itinerary for the oncoming fishing season.

President: Ralph Horowitz; Vice Pres.: Ashley Fulton; Treasurer: Don Granger; Recording Secy.: Jon Gottesmen; Corresponding Secy.: Elliot Pascoff; Fishing Committee Chairman: Bob Brucato; Entertainment Committee Chairman: Jerry Grossberg; Membership Committee Chairman: Jay Ebbets; and Public Relations Committee Chairman: Bernie Riback.

The following members were selected to assume Assistant Secretary positions to the above board members. There are still positions to be filled: Asst. Treasurer: Jim Abercromby; Asst. Corresponding Secy.: Eddy Brostek; Asst. Entertainment Committee Chairman: Stan Kofkin; Asst. Public Relations Committee Chairman: Ed Vocel.

The membership extends to those incoming hard working devils their best wishes and thanks to those vigi-

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lant outgoing chums who kept the club from going around in 1985.

The Atlantis Anglers, based in Freeport is looking to attract new members into the fold in order to fill the needs of an expanding program. Don't hesitate to call Jay Ebbets at (516) 766-4381 or Allan Rosenthal, at (516) 752-7671, between the hours of 6PM and 9PM.

COAST GUARD FUNDING RESTORED
by Rep. Norman F. Lent

The U.S. Coast Guard's air and sea operations are vitally important to Long Island, especially our boaters and fishermen. For this reason, I was very pleased that the House of Representatives acted to restore much needed funding to the Coast Guard's fiscal year 1986 budget.

In an effort to reduce the deficit, the U.S. Senate had slashed $230 million from the Coast Guard FY 1986 operations budget. As ranking minority member of the House Merchant Marine and Fisheries Committee, I am keenly aware of the Coast Guard's valuable efforts to protect life and property at sea, and I fought to maintain these operations at current levels.

Several of my colleagues on the Committee joined me in successfully urging the House to restore the funding for the Coast Guard under the Continuing Budget Resolution. The Continuing Resolution appropriates funds to those agencies for which Congress has failed to pass a regular appropriations bill. As with all federal funding programs, the Continuing Resolution had to bear its share of budget cutbacks. Therefore, while the House was forced to reduce funding by $30 million in the Coast Guard budget, a full $200 million was restored for fiscal year 1986. President Reagan signed this bill into law December 19th.

The Coast Guard's eight stations on Long Island are some of the busiest search and rescue stations in the country. The dedicated men and women of the U.S. Coast Guard save thousands of lives every year and come to the aid of boaters in emergency situations. The Coast Guard also monitors the 200 mile U.S. fishing zone to protect against overfishing by foreign fishermen. This zone was created under the 1976 Fishery Conservation and Management Act which I helped craft.

The Coast Guard also plays an essential role in aiding law enforcement officers to control the flow of illegal drug smuggling off our shores. The Coast Guard's mission is to stop and search ships suspected of carrying illegal narcotics. These efforts have become increasingly important in combatting the serious drug trafficking problem.

The Coast Guard is essential for our national security, law enforcement and for the safety of our citizens. I will continue to support adequate funding for its vital missions.

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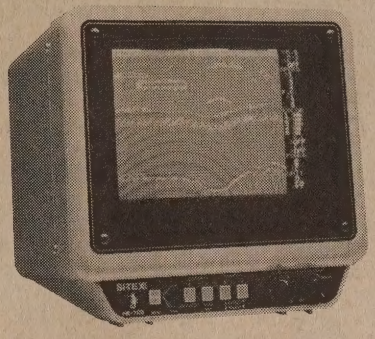

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BOATS FOR ANGLERS:

BOSTON WHALER 20 OUTRAGE

by Pete Barrett

The shape of the Boston Whaler Outrage looks like no other boat on the water and there's a reason for this uniqueness. Boston Whaler believes a boat should be built not only rugged for long, long life, but it should also be designed to run efficiently and perform with the right combination of seaworthiness, speed and fuel economy.

Whaler accomplishes this in the 20 Outrage by building a hull that is relatively light in weight so it will run like the wind without resorting to huge gas guzzling engines. The hull has a deep vee entry which slices through choppy water, is fast to plane and rides at top speed with a minimum of hull dragging in the water. Wind resistance is kept to a minimum with a low profile topsides. This blend of features also makes for a boat that is readily trailerable even by today's ever smaller autos and trucks.

The hull design had a lot of thought put into it. The deep vee entry will, of course, give a pleasant ride in all but the worst of seas. I recently ran a 20 Outrage directly into a 25 knot northwest wind and it handled a tough three foot short chop very well with few hard knocks. That particular boat did not have trim tabs and the only pounding we took was caused when the bow could not get down fast enough to slice into the next chop. A later Whaler I ran while bluefishing on the offshore grounds did have tabs and handled 3 to 5 foot seas with ease.

Unlike pure deep vees, Whaler makes the 20 Outrage a very stable boat by adding sponsons and chines to make the boat more stable and to channel spray out and away from passengers. The hull tapers to a shallower vee at the transom so the boat draws a minimum of water. In back bays and along the inshore coastal waters, the Outrage 20 is a perfect boat.

The hull is rated to 180 horsepower and with that amount of ponies hitched to the transom, the boat is awesome. If blinding speed is your cup of tea, you'll have it in generous amounts with a single 175 hp outboard. The two different 20s that I ran were powered with smaller engines. Based on speed computations calculated with onboard Lorans, the Outrage with the 150 Mercury was able to cruise in rough water at 3800 RPMs at 27 knots. Back in the calm of the river, it hit 42 knots with the throttle nailed to the bulkhead. The second boat had a 140 Evinrude and cruised in the mid-20 knot range and hit 36 knots flat out.

The Outrage uses a wide, rounded bow to get the most space from the forward area of the boat. The bow is surrounded by a stainless steel grab rail and the bow deck is plenty wide enough for lots of fishing room. Storage of anchor and other gear is available in two compartments built into the sides of the bow deck.

The bow deck itself is raised slightly from the main deck and a large combination cooler/fish box is built into the deck. Since the Whaler hulls are completely filled with foam, the fish box is insulated.

The aft deck space is generous for a boat of this size. While the beam is 7' 5" which is slightly narrower than most boats of this size, the Outrage has more usable deck than many boats because of the vertical sides of the hull. Some boats have a wide flare that extends from bow to stern so the hull is 8 feet wide at the rub rail, but much narrower at the water line. The Outrage takes full advantage of every inch of deck space.

A low profile splash well keeps water out yet is not so high and cumbersome that a fisherman can't get right up to the transom while netting, gaffing or fighting a fish.

The combings are teak, nicely finished, too, and hold the flush mount rod holders and marinium hawse pipes. Rod racks under the combings are constructed of thick teak with bunji cord tie downs to hold rods, gaffs and mops in place even in a rough ride. Three rods can be carried on each side.

For live bait fishermen, there is a teak covered live well built into the deck just ahead of the stern splash well. It can serve double duty as a live well to keep part of your catch alive and healthy such as when fluke fishing. The well is large enough to keep snappers, bunker or spot alive and frisky for long periods of time.

Close inspection of the Outrage fails to find anything that could be considered low grade. Every piece of gear, every fitting and every component used is the best or Whaler doesn't put it on their boats. From the rub rail to the stainless lift eyes it is all top quality.

A wide list of options is available from Boston Whaler including various seats, canvas tops and enclosures and accessories. These items are backed up by rocket launcher seats, hard tops, T-tops and leaning posts from independent manufacturers to enable the buyer to create his own ideal fishing boat.

Boston Whalers have always enjoyed a reputation as a dependable boat and backs this reputation up with a 10-year hull warranty and two years on parts and accessories.

The Outrage 20 is a workhorse boat. Its light weight makes it perfect for trailering on short or long trips. It is easy to maintain and will last virtually forever.

SPECIFICATIONS

Length	19'10"
Beam	7'5"
Hull Draft	11"
Hull Weight	1650 pounds
Maximum Horsepower	180
Fuel Capacity	63 gallons

Manufactured by: Boston Whaler, 1140 Hingham Street, Rockland, Massachusetts 02370, (617) 871-1400.

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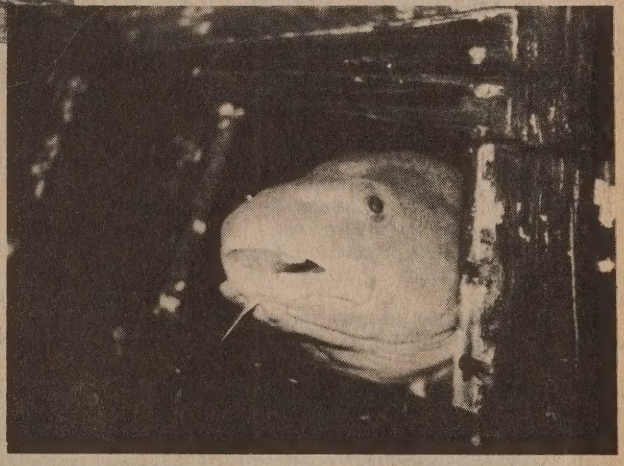

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★ PRODUCT REVIEW ★

EAGLE MACH I GRAPH RECORDER

by Greg Venturo

Chart recorders have made great advances in the last two decades in both price and fish finding abilities. It sure doesn't seem that long ago when flasher type fish finders were the big news in the latest fish finding gear for anglers.

Eagle Electronics, a division of Lowrance Electronics has the Eagle Mach I recorder on the market for sometime now. This machine is available with a 192 kHz operating frequency and will give you reliable readings to 1,000 feet.

The standard 20 degree transducer will provide better resolution and be able to separate targets up to one inch apart under most inshore conditions. As a basic rule of thumb, the angler can expect to cover an area of 30 percent of the bottom that they are reading with this unit. As an example, if you were in 100 feet of water you would divide by three and cover an area under your boat of approximately 33⅓ feet across the diameter of a circle. The 8 degree transducer would cover roughly 9.1 feet. In other words, divide by 9 for bottom coverage. The choice is yours.

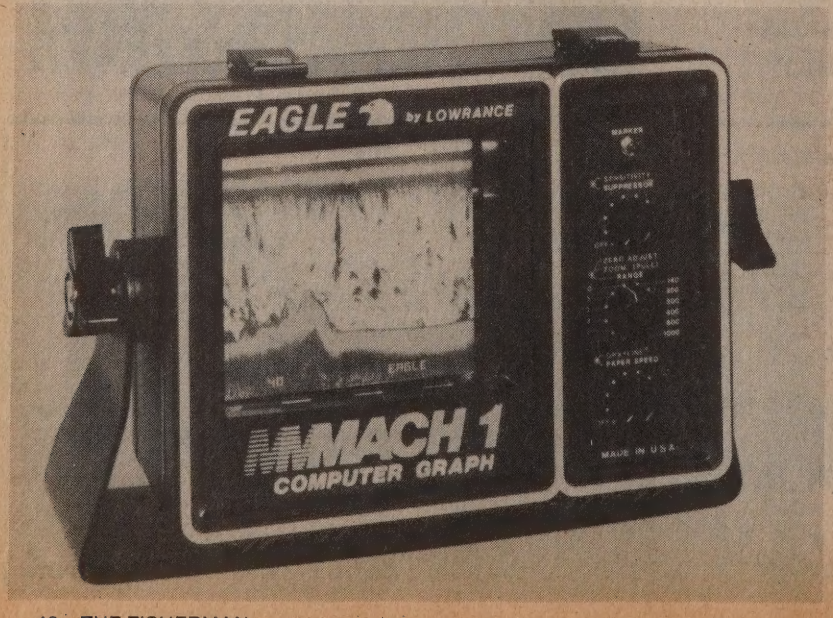
The Mach I has 24 ranges and the ability to expand the bottom half of any range you choose. This feature is commonly called "Zoom."

Depth ranges are easily set via a rotary knob. Simply set the dot to the desired range setting. There are 12 basic depth ranges and with the expansion feature you can double that to 24. The rotary knob may not be as advanced as the Eagle or Lowrance touch pad entry for a wider degree of depth and zoom choices, but in a heavy sea it is easily operated.

The zoom feature is located on the same knob that the range settings are on and operation is very simple. Just grab the center knob and pull out. That's it. If you were in the 0 to 60 foot range, you would have now blown up the bottom half to see from 30 to 60 feet on the same size piece of paper. Great bottom readings are attained like this.

The Mach I also has a Grayline feature. This will allow the angler to separate the solid dark bottom into a thin pencil-like line, then a gray area and then your normal shaded bottom. This feature will show fish hugging close to the bottom and allow you to discriminate targets that might not have otherwise been seen.

Paper speed is also adjustable on this machine. For better target resolution you will have the speed turned up and for just keeping track of the bottom you can slow it way down to save paper.



The Mach I is turned on with the sensitivity knob. Power (gain) is also applied by turning up the sensitivity knob. Be careful not to turn up the power too much in shallow water as it will overpower the machine's ability to tell what it's looking at. The Mach I is capable of putting out 1,600 watts peak to peak power (200 watts RMS). So you can see it has the right stuff to find those weak signals from very deep fish.

The sensitivity control must be set and not simply turned on. This is called peaking the transducer and is easily done. Turn the machine on and go to your desired depth setting. Turn the power up until you get a strong bottom signal. If you are in the 0 to 30 foot scale, you now want to at least double or even triple the range by using the 0 to 60 or 0 to 100 setting to see if you have a second echo. This is nothing more than a false signal that is usually at double the depth of what you are reading. If you do not have this signal you must turn up the power until you see it.

Warning: do not make it too strong or you will have to use too much suppression to tone the signal down and you might miss a fish. You should just be able to get a very faint second echo signal. If you go into much different depth you should tune the power gain. If you go beyond your rotary knob range, tune the set. After tuning the recorder, go back to the 0 to 30 reading.

A suppressor knob filters out undesired signals. This can be used to varying degrees. Suppression can be used to filter unwanted electrical interference from engines or other pieces of electrical equipment. It can also take out sea clutter from air bubbles under the boat or rough sea conditions. Use suppression with as much restraint as possible. Learn to read through the signal and get the whole picture.

There is an event marker. This is used by means of pushing a button located at the top of the set. It will leave a dark line across the full length of the chart paper for future reference.

All in all, the Eagle Mach I is a user friendly unit, easy to operate and can really find fish.

SPECIFICATIONS

Dimensions:
- Height . . . . . 9 inches
- Width . . . . . 12.4 inches
- Depth . . . . . 6.5 inches

Range Scales . . 0 to 10, 20, 40, 60, 100, 140, 200, 300, 400, 600, 1000
Power Supply . . . . . 12 volt, DC
Target Resolution . . . . . 4 inches
Operating Frequency . . . . . 192 kHz
Output Power . . . . . 1600 watts

Manufactured by: Eagle, a division of Lowrance, P.O. Box 669, Catoosa, Oklahoma 74015, 1-800-331-2301.

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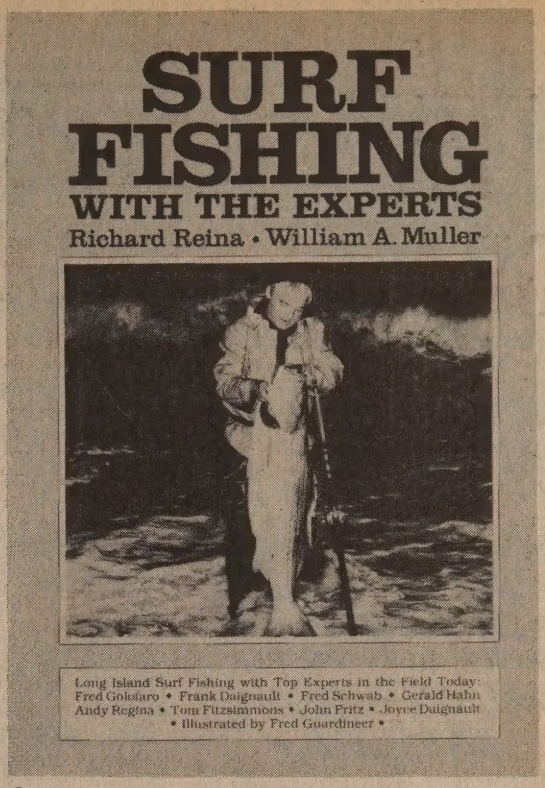
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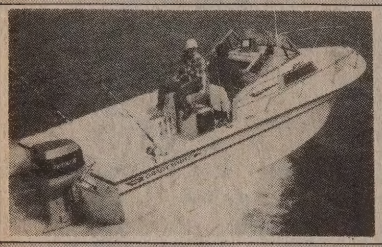

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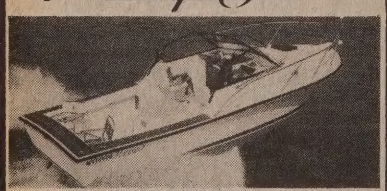

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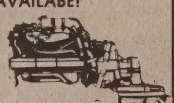

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THE TACKLE DOCTOR

by Russ Wilson

Dear Doc,

I receive The Fisherman. I am trying to get some information in regard to building fishing rods. I make my own. I notice some rods do not use threads for windings on the guides. Instead, a plastic wrapping is molded on the guides. Do you know what it is and where I can buy it? Any information you can furnish will be greatly appreciated. *Fred Krowchenko.*

Dear Fred,

You are referring to heat shrink tubing, the type that is used by electronics mechanics to cover wire connections so they do not corrode.

The tubing, in various diameters, is available at most stereo shops, electronics outlets and even through Radio Shack stores in this area.

The heat shrink tubing ***will not*** *give you a neat looking wrap like a guide that is wrapped with fine diameter thread, but it will get the job done if that's all you want.*

I'd think twice before applying heat shrink tubing to one of my custom built rods. There is a certain amount of satisfaction in building a rod from scratch and if you substitute tubing in place of the classy looking thread wraps you will lose the "hand crafted" appearance. It is, however, your rod and you can do with it as you desire. In short, the heat shrink tubing will work.

* * *

Dear Doc,

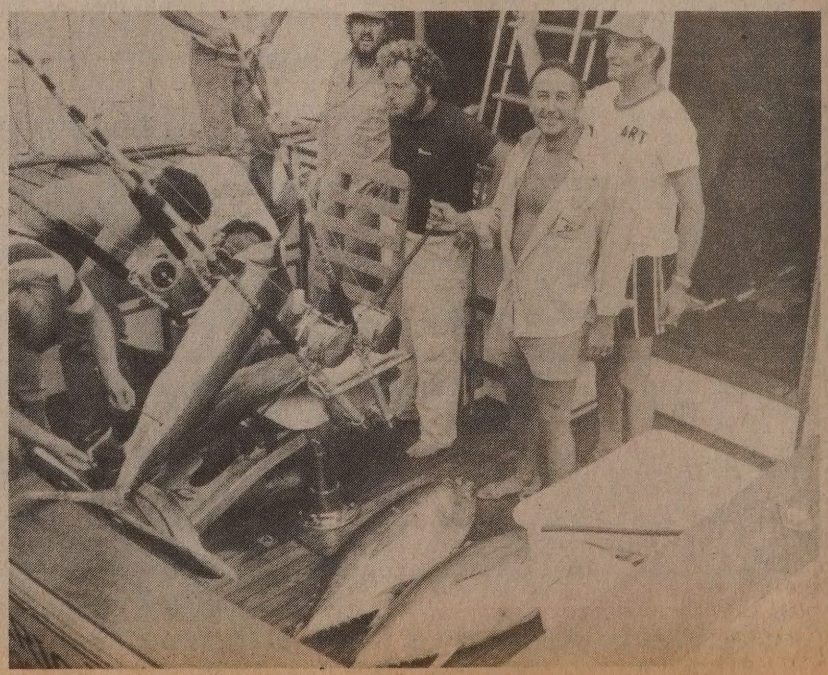
I have a very good spinning rod from one of the best known companies in the United States. It's about five or six years old and has been used less than a dozen times. The reason being that it just does not have any backbone to lift fish up off the bottom after they are hooked. The rod measures 7 feet and is a light action spinning rod intended for inshore fishing, I would guess.

What I'd like to do, and on this I do need your help, is to cut off some of the slender tip so the rod becomes stiffer and will enable me to lift fish without the rod bending into a circle.

What do you think? Am I off base or will cutting the tip give me a stronger rod for sinker bouncing and fluke fishing? I do not want to ruin this rod, but the way it is now isn't very useful for saltwater use. *Tom Fitzpatrick.*

Dear Tom,

You can cut the tip and it will give you a much stiffer action. However, I



suggest you cut it in stages. Try cutting a couple inches and see how the rod feels. If it is still wimpy, cut a couple more inches and test it again. Remember, when cutting the blank, you must keep in mind that the blank has to be mated with a new tip-top. Cut it in-between sizes and you'll have a sloppy appearing finish job because you'll have to fill the space between the blank and tip with ferrule cement.

If you are not too sure about damaging the rod you might try taking it to a reputable rod builder and have him (or her) cut it for you. At any rate, I would not take off more than six inches from the blank to achieve the stiffer action. By removing too much from the tip you can completely ruin the action of the rod which could be worse than using it as is.

* * *

Dear Doc,

I plan on re-stringing my 50Ws this spring with 50 lb. and 80 lb. test line, and I am faced with a question for the Tackle Doctor.

My methods of blue water angling are generally at anchor in a slick, or an occasional trolling trip at the canyon.

In the past, I have preferred dacron line over mono while jigging inshore with lighter weight lines.

I would like to carry over the use of dacron to my offshore trips as well. However, with the advent of the new high tech IGFA mono lines, I am a bit confused. Do the heavier weight mono lines (50 to 80 lb.) really respond as well as advertised?

Also, is the black dacron line more visible in the water than the clear mono lines? I have been told the big eyes on tuna are very sensitive to line visibility on bright, calm days at anchor. Is this true? *Bob Romeo.*

Dear Bob,

Most offshore fishermen use both kinds of line when seeking larger fish so the final choice is yours. However, we do like dacron since it has the "no stretch" factor that allows us to handle fish a little differently than we might when using a monofilament line that has built-in stretch.

If you are fishing with other experienced anglers I'd say go with the dacron. But, if you carry inexperienced fishermen you may find the mono a better choice since it is a more forgiving material due to its stretch, which allows an angler to make a mistake such as applying too much drag at boatside or letting the fish dive beneath the boat so the line rubs across the hull. Dacron will usually fray when this occurs, but monofilament will take a tad more abuse and may keep you from losing a large fish at the boat.

Another cause for line failure is using too tight a drag and having the fish break off as it makes its bid for freedom. When using dacron you must keep the drag set correctly or you will pop the line. With mono you have the stretch factor to fall back on.

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STATE PARK PERMIT SCHEDULE FOR 1986

by William A. Muller

The Long Island State Parks and Recreation Commission has just released the details of its fishing and vehicle permit program for 1986. Final details for the program were worked out with the Fishing Advisory Board, December 5, 1985. Although there was disagreement between the Commission and the FAB regarding the fee for the Night Sport Fishing Permit, final resolution of the Sport Fishing Permit fee has been tabled until 1986 for the 1987 season.

The Fisherman staff strongly urges you to read the following information, provided to you for your convenience, very, very carefully. Please plan your permit securing activities so as not to be eliminated as a legitimate permit holder. Please note the portion of the season when no permits will be issued. If you have any questions, feel feel to call Commission Headquarters at (516) 669-1000, Ext. 247.

The Long Island State Park and Recreation Commission has announced that Sport Fishing, Beach Vehicle and Caumsett State Park fishing permits will be issued for Long Island State Park facilities for 1986.

Applicants MUST present vehicle registration and the correct permit fee (payable to: Long Island State Park and Recreation Commission) in order to receive permit. The permits will be valid for the vehicle bearing license plate number indicated on the permit ONLY and are non-transferable (to another person or vehicle). All permits will expire on December 31, 1986, regardless of the date issued. Permits will be issued to bona fide sport fishermen ONLY: permit holders may be required to show fishing equipment (rods, reels, line, bait and/or lures, hooks, sinkers, and terminal gear for bait or lures) at park upon request. There will be no refunds for lost and/or revoked permits.

1986 Fishing Permits will NOT be issued to any individual whose 1985 Sport Fishing, Beach Vehicle, and/or Caumsett Fishing permit was revoked. These persons will not be eligible for Long Island State Park and Recreation Commission fishing permits in 1986.

Sport Fishing Permit: valid April 1 to December 31, 1986 for after sunset parking for the purpose of night fishing ONLY at Captree, Hither Hills, Jones Beach, Montauk Point, Robert Moses, Sunken Meadow and Wildwood State Parks. These permits, for which there is a $10 annual fee, may be obtained (in person only) at the parks listed above and at the Permit Office, Long Island State Park and Recreation Commission Administration Headquarters, Belmont Lake State Park, Babylon (Belmont Avenue at Southern State Parkway, Exit 37N), from January 2 to April 30 and from September 2 to December 31, 1986 ONLY. Sport Fishing Permits *will not be issued* from May 1 through September 1. (7-day permits for new residents, vacationers, etc., at a fee of $5, may be purchased during this period at the Permit Office and at Hither Hills State Park ONLY.

The tower at Robert Moses State Park is a familiar sight to surfmen who take advantage of the fine fishing available here.

Additional regulations for Sport Fishing Permits are as follows:

Jones Beach—Night parking limited to Parking Fields 6, 10 and West End 2.

Robert Moses—Night parking limited to Parking Field 2. (During *Winter ONLY-permit also valid for Parking Field 3).

*Winter: Sept. 15 to Dec. 31.

Beach Vehicle Permit: Allows access to designated beach areas at Robert Moses (Democrat Point), Hither Hills, Napeague and Montauk Point State Parks. These permits, for which there is a $25 annual fee, may be purchased (in person only) at Robert Moses and Hither Hills State Parks from January 2 to April 30 and from September 1 to December 21, 1986 ONLY. Beach Vehicle permits *will not be issued* from May 1 through September 1.

Additional regulations for Beach Vehicle Permits are as follows:

All vehicles must be equipped with fishing equipment, a shovel, rope (or tow chain) and sanitary facilities.

Hither Hills, Napeague and Montauk Point—permit valid 24 hours daily, year-round.

Robert Moses (Democrat Point)—permit valid 24 hours daily from April 1 to 5PM on Thursday, May 22 and from 12:01AM on Tuesday, September 2 through December 31, 1986. Effective 5PM Thursday, May 22 to 12:01AM Tuesday, September 2, vehicles may enter Democrat Point before 7AM or after 5PM ONLY. Vehicles may remain on the beach for no more than 48 consecutive hours.

Beach Vehicle Permits also allow all privileges of Sport Fishing Permit (above). There will be no replacements for lost Beach Vehicle Permits; duplicate permits *will not be issued.*

Caumsett State Park: Allows sport fishermen to drive to and from the fishing parking area ONLY and are valid from April 1 to December 31, 1986 during hours and days specified by Park Superintendent ONLY. The annual fee for Caumsett Fishing Permits will be $20. Permits will be issued as follows:

1. On January 2, 1986, a total of 250 permits will be issued on a first come, first served basis at the Belmont Lake State Park Office (Exit 38, Southern State Parkway) ONLY.

2. On February 20, 1986, a lottery will be conducted for an additional 200 permits. Specific information for the Caumsett lottery follows:

Applications for the lottery will be available beginning Monday, January 20, 1986, at Caumsett State Park and at Long Island State Park and Recreation Commission Administration Headquarters. Applications may also be obtained by sending a stamped, self-addressed envelope to: Caumsett Fishing, P.O. Box 247, Babylon, NY 11702.

Applications for the lottery must be submitted not later than close of business on Tuesday, February 18, 1986. ONE application per person/vehicle/household ONLY—duplications will result in cancellation of ALL applications for person/vehicle/household.

A drawing will be held at 2PM on Thursday, February 20, 1986, at Long Island State Park and Recreation Commission Administration Headquarters, at which time applications will be assigned numbers according to the order in which they are drawn, up to 300. (Applicants are invited to attend the drawings.) Permits will be issued to the first 200, the next 100 will be placed on a waiting list.

The $20 annual fee is NOT to be submitted with application. Following the February 20 drawing, all applicants will be notified as to whether or not they are among the 200 selected to receive a permit (and/or the 100 to be placed on the waiting list). Those 200 successful in the drawing will then be required to submit their $20 fee (not later than Monday, March 3) and will receive their permit by return mail.

Note: Ten 1-day Fishing Passes will continue to be available (8AM to 4PM) at the Caumsett State Park entrance booth for single weekday (M-F) use ONLY.

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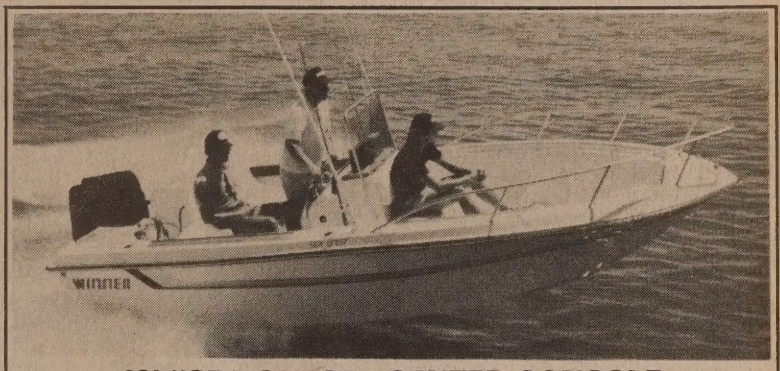

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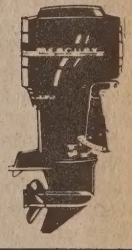

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NEW YORK SURF FISHING CONTEST SUMMARY

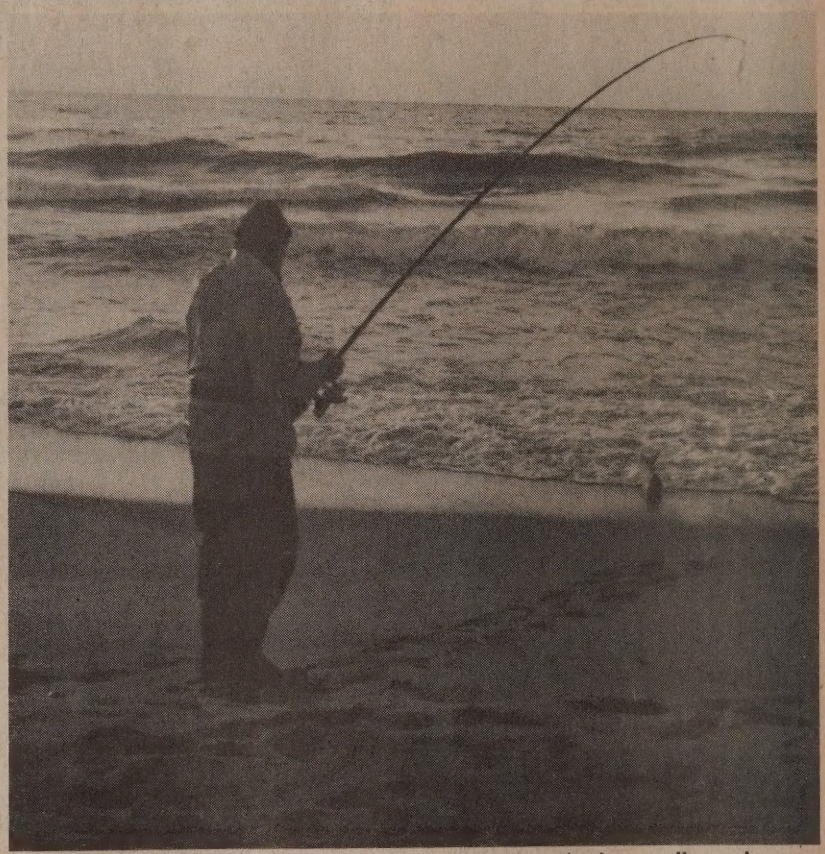
by John Fritz

The sixth season of competition in the New York Surf Fishing Contest was a banner year in many respects. A greater number of anglers (120) entered a larger number of fish (729) with a total weight of 9,925 pounds. Before anyone decries the slaughter of almost five tons of game fish, let me point out that the nine participating clubs released well over 19,000 pounds of fish. Competition rules state that eligible striped bass weigh at least 10 pounds and that bluefish and weakfish be no less than 5 pounds, so the fish released were not short bass or harbor blues. In fact, the largest striped bass released was a cow of 55 pounds set free by Rich Hummell of the High Hill Striper Club, last June. A cursory look at this past fishing season, particularly how it affected the Surf Fishing Contest, reveals that the month of April is a total waste; not a fish was entered. Given this past year's experience December should replace April as a time for entering fish. Many was enlightening in that a surprisingly large number of point bluefish were entered, almost equivalent, at least in weight, to striped bass, a more likely spring species. Weakfish, on the other hand, continued their numerical decline but the weight of the fish entered were impressive.

Whereas the fish taken in May were confined, for the most part, to a relatively few locations, June fishing provided excellent action on all three species from Breezy Point to Montauk. The largest official bass of the season was taken on the 26th at Shagwong while teen sized stripers and bluefish held the interest of those plying the west end. Although a few larger weakfish were beached later in the season, June proved to be the best time for seeking those spotted beauties.

In previous years July was a time when the hot action initiated in June continued well into the month. July '85 was an exception in that it was a disappointment to all but a few Rockaway fishermen and those working a handful of secluded points along the north shore.

Bluefish were the staple entry for August, as well as September, an indication of what was in store for the final two months of the Contest. While entries from the north shore were almost non-existent, no one was complaining due to the fantastic run of bluefish along the entire south shore. This action gradually built up through the month of October and early November to a tremendous finale the days preceding Thanksgiving. Catches of 30 to 40 teen sized blues were routine. What more could a surf caster ask for? Striped Bass? Well, they were present also in impressive sizes spread out along the shoreline where anglers the length of the Island had a shot at beaching a cow bass, many did much more than that. To the delight of some and the frustration of others, these fish fed primarily during the daylight hours. True, there were some nights at Montauk where numerous wary bass were taken from the night tides, in a manner more fitting this prized species. The lone disappointment was the lack of a sustained fall run of weakfish, even though the new Contest record was set in October.



The 1985 Contest saw record numbers of fish beached, as well as released, by competing anglers.

In the absence of the long defunct Schaefer Saltwater Fishing Contest, the New York Surf Fishing Contest is the sole inter-club competition for area surf fishermen. All participants join in a hearty thank you to the publishers of The Long Island Fisherman for being the sponsor of this annual event for the past two years. We hope that they see fit to continue their support in the future. In return all clubs should make their members aware of the generosity of The Long Island Fisherman.

Following is a partial summary of the new Contest records set in 1985:

Thirty-four anglers will receive individual achievement pins; of these four will be given gold pins for posting more than 300 points and nine will be awarded silver pins for accumulating 200 points or more.

Two anglers bettered the old record of Individual Points: O. Van Hel-

mond, Patchogue Fishing Club, with 629 points and J. McKay, Gateway Striper Club, 566 points.

Individual striped bass entries for the year, J. McKay, Gateway, with 25 bass.

Total entries for the year, 55 by O. Van Helmond of Patchogue F.C. Record number of bluefish entered: 34 O. Van Helmond.

Individual bluefish points, the old record was beaten by 70 points, again O. Van Helmond.

The old record for heaviest weakfish was surpassed twice: R. Mele of Empire Striper Club, with a tide-runner of 16 lbs. 8 oz. and T. Booker, Gateway, with a 15.8 lb. beauty.

A new record for most striped bass points posted during one month was set by T. Kehlenbeck, Patchogue F.C. with 204 points.

The number of striped bass entered by an individual for a month was increased from 8 to 9 by W. Zambriski of East End Surf Fishing Club.

The competing clubs also set a series of new records for fish caught, all within the confines of New York State.

All but two clubs had 14 or more members entering fish, indicating widespread interest in competing amongst themselves and against other clubs.

Annual release points is up from 4029 points set by High Hill S.C. with 5236 points and also Mid-Island Surfcasters with 4643 pounds of released fish.

Indicative of the fabulous run of large choppers was the fact that four clubs beat the old record of Annual Bluefish Point. The past record was 659, bested by Gateway 876; Mid-Island 745; Patchogue 678 and Farragut 667.

There were more striped bass and bluefish entered this year than in any previous year by one club. The old record of 38 stripers was shattered by Gateway with 44 entries. The most bluefish in any given year had been 58; Gateway beat that mark also with 70 entries. The annual total of striped bass points was upped from 331 to 383 by the Patchogue Fishing Club.

The monster bluefish of this past season permitted the old mark of 177 monthly bluefish points to be beat four times. Mid-Island Surfcasters did it twice, in October and November, 183 and 182; Gateway 180 and High Hill 178.

I apologize if this hasty perusal of the available statistics missed any relevant facts, but a complete compilation of all data will be forwarded to each competing club at the time of the annual Awards Dinner in March.

If any sport fishing clubs have an interest in competing in the New York Surf Fishing Contest, forward your request to The Long Island Fisherman. Leave the name of your organization, name and phone number of the person representing your club and I will return the call, answering any questions your club may have.

NEW YORK SURF FISHING CONTEST FINAL RESULTS

(Period Ending: November 30, 1985)

sponsored by The Fisherman

CLUB STANDINGS—

CLUB	BASS	BLUE	WEAK	TOTAL
1. Gateway Striper Club	597	876	214	1687
2. Patchogue Fishing Club	796	678	177	1651
3. Farragut Striper Club	543	667	217	1427
4. Mid Island Surfcasters	364	745	87	1196
5. Great South Bay Anglers	575	440	143	1158
6. High Hill Striper Club	334	553	183	1070
7. East End Surf Club	406	469	176	1051
8. Striper Surf Club	247	277	60	584
9. Empire Striper Club	85	0	16	101

HEAVIEST STRIPED BASS—Individual Standings

ANGLER	WEIGHT	CLUB
1. R. Brown	48 pounds, 10 ounces	FSC
2. G. Dietz	47 pounds, 10 ounces	PFC
3. J. Belmonte	47 pounds, 9 ounces	PFC

HEAVIEST BLUEFISH—Individual Standings

ANGLER	WEIGHT	CLUB
1. D. Palmer	21 pounds, 0 ounces	MIS
2. P. Ripi	20 pounds, 0 ounces	FSC
3. F. Pasantino	19 pounds, 12 ounces	FSC

HEAVIEST WEAKFISH—Individual Standings

ANGLER	WEIGHT	CLUB
1. R. Mele	16 pounds, 8 ounces	EMS
2. T. Booker	15 pounds, 8 ounces	GSC
3. R. Rosenberger	13 pounds, 12 ounces	EES

MOST POINTS OVERALL—Individual Top 20

ANGLER	CLUB	BASS	BLUE	WEAK	TOTAL
1. O. VanHelmond	PFC	189	346	94	629
2. J. McKay	GSC	326	222	18	566
3. J. Fritz	FSC	70	183	82	335
4. J. Augeri	GSC	121	110	88	319
5. F. Golofaro	GSBA	122	97	67	286
6. W. Smith	HHS	110	119	51	280
7. K. Kassan	FSC	187	19	29	235
8. P. Ciliento	PFC	86	145	0	231
9. D. Meola	EES	10	147	69	226
10. F. McCann	FSC	212	0	8	220
11. T. Watters	MIS	37	173	5	215
12. D. Palmer	MIS	0	208	6	214
13. T. Kehlenbeck	PFC	174	30	0	204
14. J. Klosek	GSC	0	199	0	199
15. T. Booker	GSC	28	87	81	196
16. W. Miller	MIS	99	70	18	187
17. F. Schwab	HHS	23	51	97	171
18. C. Sztorc	SSC	41	80	37	158
19. T. Farrell	GSC	57	90	7	154
20. G. Innes	FSC	0	116	27	143

RELEASED FISH POINTS—Top 3 Clubs

1. High Hill Striper Club . . . . . 5236 points
2. Mid Island Surfcasters . . . . . 4643 points
3. Gateway Striper Club . . . . . 3964 points

WOMEN'S DIVISION—Heaviest of Species

J. Tyrer	EES	Bluefish	13 pounds, 0 ounces
S. Brooks	EES	Weakfish	5 pounds, 8 ounces

CHILDREN'S DIVISION—Heaviest of Species

G. Remien	PFC	Striped Bass	20 pounds, 8 ounces
J. Karman	GSBA	Bluefish	16 pounds, 8 ounces
G. Cooke III	MIS	Weakfish	9 pounds, 8 ounces

OUT OF STATE STRIPED BASS—Top 3 Clubs

1. Striper Surf Club . . . . . 514 points
2. Patchogue Fishing Club . . . . . 428 points
3. Great South Bay Anglers . . . . . 94 points

FISHERMAN TRAVEL LOG:

MISADVENTURE IN MEXICO

by Bill Feinberg

On reflection, the whole affair seemed like a dream, but looking down at the cast on my right leg, I know all too well that it was real. Who would have thought when it began that I would wind up on an operating table, followed by some 6 or 7 weeks of forced immobility, and that notwithstanding, I would consider myself lucky to have gotten off so easily.

It all started in early summer with an excited announcement by my wife, Joan, that her employer had awarded her a trip to Puerto Vallarta, Mexico and that I was included. We were enthusiastic and I became even more so when I learned from friends who had been there that the fishing was good, with a variety of game species to be caught. A few visits to local tackle shops, and I had about everything that I thought would keep me supplied. I have learned not to rely upon tackle shops in foreign countries, as they sometimes prove to be either non-existent or woefully lacking in equipment.

Although the trip was scheduled to begin on a Wednesday in late September, we decided to go down earlier so as to get in some extra fishing and sightseeing.

The trip down from Newark to Dallas and then to Puerto Vallarta was uneventful. We arrived to find the temperature about 95 degrees, the humidity about 85 percent and the area beautiful. Puerto Vallarta was, and largely still is, a small quaint Mexican fishing village located between the Sierra Madre mountains and the Pacific Ocean. The hotels are located along the beach on the outskirts of town.

Our first day was spent in renting a car and driving into the mountains for lunch at a restaurant that had been highly recommended. Turning off the paved highway we travelled up through the forest on a so-called road which was nothing more than a red clay trail. This trail was scored by deep ruts and holes that had been eroded by the heavy and frequent mountain rains. After what seemed like several hours of tortuous driving, we arrived at the restaurant which was located below a scenic waterfall on the bank of a mountain river. A surprising number of other guests had arrived before us, and we could understand why after eating a fine gourmet lunch with a bottle of Mexican wine, all at what would be a ridiculously inexpensive price at home. Much of Puerto Vallarta's food comes from the sea so that the restaurants feature jumbo shrimp (camarones), lobster, red snapper, dolphin (mahi mahi) and a variety of other local fish.

I noticed in driving through town that there was a dock at which a number of small charter boats were moored. I decided to make arrangements for a charter, but on returning to our hotel, I found a charter boat, named the Toucan, moored a few feet off the beach. The young Mexican skipper told me he was available the next day and that his rate was $16 (U.S.) per hour, a price which included bait, tackle and everything except soda and beer. We made a date, and the next morning Joan and I got aboard the Toucan which the skipper had pulled up to the beach. The boat was open, about 24 feet in length and had an essential canopy stretched over the cockpit. It was equipped with outriggers and four rods had been rigged. The outriggers fished lines baited with fair sized mullet while Japanese feathers were the end tackle on the others. Penn reels seemed to be the skipper's favorite, with the tackle being on the light side. After about an hour's run we arrived on the grounds, an area containing some rock islands rising sheer from the sea, and a prominent slick of murky water and driftwood. Our captain informed us that the slick originated in a large mountain river that joined the ocean. The water depth in the area is in the neighborhood of 200 feet. There already were a number of other boats fishing on the grounds, and we noticed that one was tied into a large dolphin. We trolled the edge of the slick and soon had a strike on the outrigger. It proved to be a 26 pound dolphin. This was followed by a hard strike, the fish sounding and ultimately getting free. After several hours, we had boated a number of dolphin ranging up to 56 pounds. They were scrappy fish, frequently taking to the air in an effort to throw the hook. All had been taken on the trolled mullet, the Japanese feathers not having raised a single strike. We then headed for home after

having had a good day of fishing.

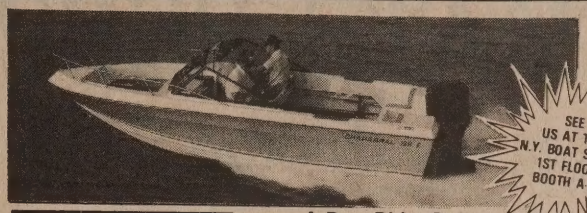
The following morning I decided to get up early and try fishing the surf behind our hotel. The sea was calm and the air unusually still. I threw some plugs and a number of other lures without success and after about an hour and a half, decided to quit. At this point I was alongside of a short rock jetty, one of the very few in the area. Suddenly the indescribable happened. I thought I had become violently and seriously ill. I lost my sense of balance, could hardly stand, and the whole world seemed in a turmoil. My reaction was that I was experiencing some sort of serious attack. I grabbed for one of the boulders in the jetty, hung on and closed my eyes. The boulder seemed to be rolling from side to side, and I thought I was about to die from my unknown illness. The thought crossed my mind that if the end had in fact come, at least I would die while fishing, the sport that had so influenced my life over so many years. After what seemed an age (I later found out it was about 3½ minutes), I seemed to be better. I could stand, although still dizzy and I quickly decided that I would have to check myself into a local hospital. Going back to my room I paid no attention to the waves in the swimming pool or to the large cracks in the hotel structure. I was also oblivious to the fact that the hotel was empty and that Joan was not in our room although it was only about 7:15 AM. She returned, looking for me, a few minutes later, and I learned at that point that we had had an earthquake, and that in fact I had not been ill. Joan had been awakened when the quake struck. Our room was on the eighth floor and the building rocked so violently Joan felt that the hotel had to collapse, and that she would not survive. Miraculously, although badly cracked, the building remained standing. We went downstairs and outside. Sometime later, in the aftermath, I slipped in a puddle of water thrown out of the pool by the quake and fell. I struck my right ankle, dislocating and fracturing it in three places. What followed is somewhat hazy now, but it included emergency treatment by a very concerned Mexican doctor, two more earthquakes, a flight to New York and an operation on my leg. The quake, as I know now, was one of the worst in Mexican history, measuring more than 8 on the Richter scale. It took a toll of what may ultimately amount to 10,000 lives. I was also told that a number of charter boats that had gone out on the day of the quake disappeared and have never been accounted for. I was thankful that we had not delayed our day offshore by 24 hours or else we, too, might well have been among the missing.

Now that it is all over, I can say without hesitation that of all my fishing trips, the most unreal was the one I'll always remember as my Mexican Misadventure.

Chaparral

THE POSSIBLE DREAM

MERCURY OUTBOARDS



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ULTIMATE POPPING ROD

by George Sanderson

Weakfish give a really good account of themselves on this rod. Casting plugs to surface feeding blues—this rod is more than up to the task. Working bucktails, small Hopkins, etc., the sensitivity of this rod will put fish in the cooler. I won't go on; you've probably gotten the idea that I feel that this is one good all around fishing tool.

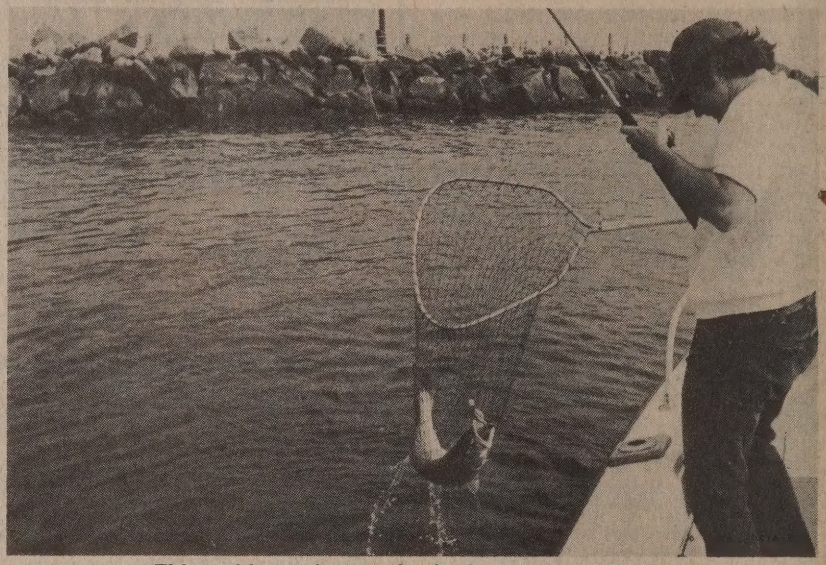
Being a custom rod builder I own a wide variety of fishing rods. They range from a 13 foot surf rod on down to a 4½ foot ultra-light boron spinner—and just about everything in-between. Over the years a few have become real favorites—sort of like old friends. My graphite popping rod certainly fits into this category.

I use this rod with a variety of conventional (bait casting) reels. If I plan on using 8 to 12 pound test I'll screw on my Garcia Ultra-Mag II. If I want to go with heavier line (14 to 17 lb. test), I use a Penn 940 level wind. When you're talking about a rod that will handle 8 to 17 lb. test line, it becomes readily apparent that a wide range of fish can be taken with it.

This was the first graphite popping rod that I ever built. I have several fiberglass models, but I felt that the added sensitivity inherent in graphite would make a super popping rod—I was right!

The blank that I used was a Lamiglas GLB 84 1M. Its original length was 7 feet, but I removed approximately four inches from the tip to make it a little more rigid and versatile. Keep cutting a little bit at a time until a #8 tip fits snugly. A little mathematical calculation will allow you to figure that you will be left with 6' and 8" of blank—not too short and not too long.

I normally use a 10 inch butt grip on a rod of this type, but I figured to cut that down a bit and see how it worked out. The 8 inch grip I installed worked perfectly. It's long enough to make a two handed cast—but short enough that it doesn't get in the way. The fore grip is 4 inches long and I used hypalon as grip material. You might want to use Veltex or cork, the choice is yours.



This rod is made to order for bucktailing weaks.

I wanted a trigger type reel seat on my popping rod so I epoxied on a Fuji #20 trigger seat. These seats are made of a graphite/nylon composite with stainless steel self-aligning hoods. The trigger is also graphite. These seats are strong, light and add a lot of the sensitivity of the rod. If you prefer to do away with the trigger a regular Fuji #20 seat will fit the bill.

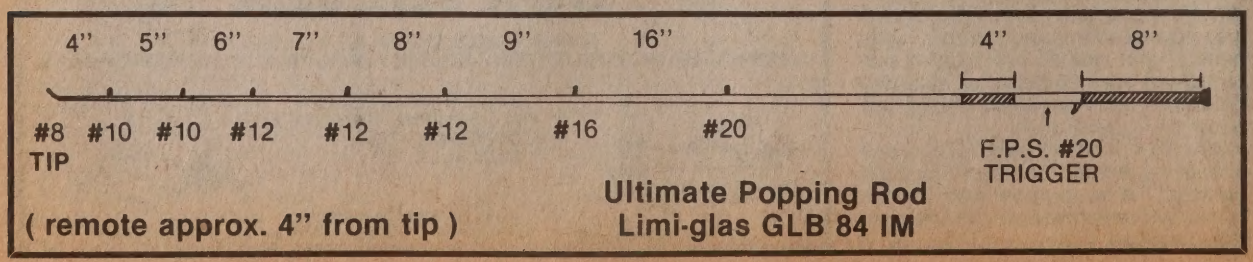
A large rubber crutch cap finishes off the handle assembly. You may hook up a real scrappy fish and have to brace the rod into your stomach during the fight. You'll appreciate the large butt if this should occur. Let's hope you use it often!

Many fine guides are available for use on a rod of this type. I'm partial to Fuji—I like the quality of all of their products. If you want to go top shelf take a look at the SIC guides. These silicon carbide guides are light, strong, and offer excellent heat dissipation. They are also expensive. Think about the type of fish that your rod will be subjected to. If you plan on taking large and hard fighting fish on light line, then the extra expense is certainly justified.

A good alternative to the SICs would be the Fuji hardaloy series. They offer lightweight, strong construction and an extremely smooth surface. Also, they are reasonably priced. These are the guides I used on my rod.

Use the tip-top that matches up with the guides you choose. Guide size and spacing are shown in the diagrams.

This "ultimate popping rod" could very well be the most expensive custom rod that you have ever built (or had built for you). But if you get even half of the use from yours that I have gotten from mine, you will find the extra expense more than justified.

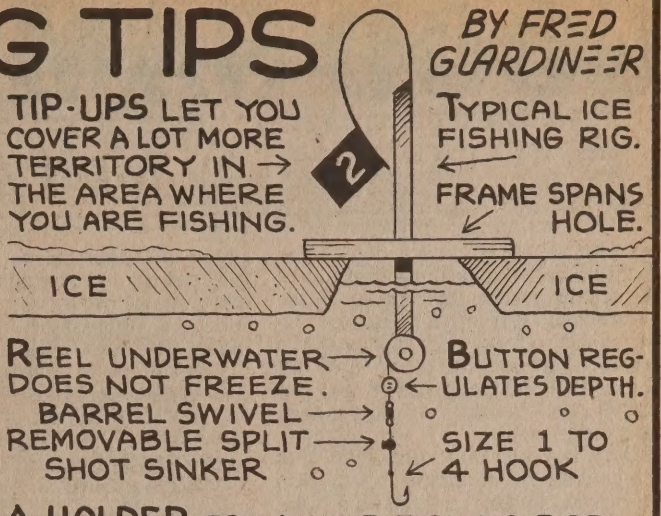


ICE FISHING TIPS

BY FRED GIARDINEER

A HEAVY SINKER IS THE KEY WHEN FAST ICE FISHING FOR YELLOW PERCH WHICH TRAVEL IN SCHOOLS AND YOU MUST GET YOUR BAIT DOWN TO THEM QUICKLY BEFORE THEY MOVE. USE AT LEAST A 1 OUNCE SINKER... 2 OUNCES WHEN THE FISH ARE DEEP.

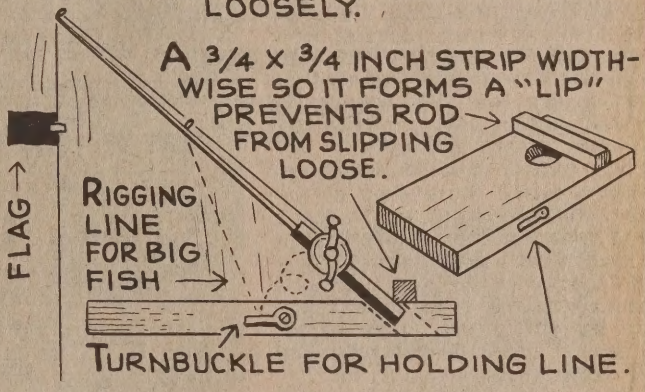
TIP-UPS LET YOU COVER A LOT MORE TERRITORY IN THE AREA WHERE YOU ARE FISHING.



TYPICAL ICE FISHING RIG.

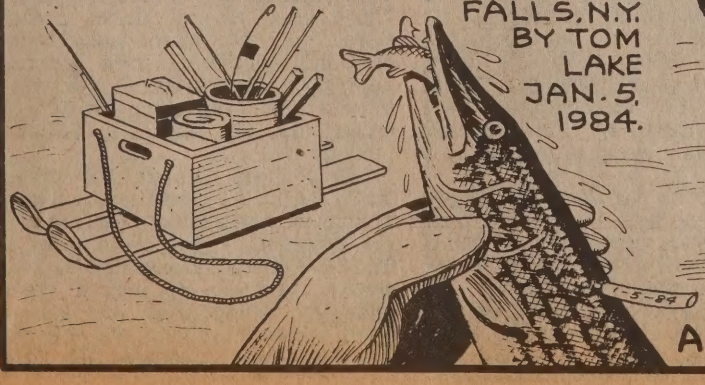
FRAME SPANS HOLE.

A HOLDER FOR AN ICE FISHING ROD CAN BE MADE FROM A 1X6X14-INCH BOARD. DRILL HOLE AT 45° ANGLE AND MAKE SURE ROD HANDLE FITS LOOSELY.


A 3/4 X 3/4 INCH STRIP WIDTHWISE SO IT FORMS A "LIP" PREVENTS ROD FROM SLIPPING LOOSE.
FLAG
RIGGING LINE FOR BIG FISH
TURNBUCKLE FOR HOLDING LINE.

TO CARRY TACKLE AND EQUIPMENT TRY AN OLD PAIR OF SHORTENED SKIS SCREWED TO THE BOTTOM OF A BOX. SKIS ARE LIGHT, NEGOTIATE SOFT POWDER AND THIN CRUSTS. IN MANY CASES SKIS ARE BETTER THAN THE USUAL SLED RUNNERS.

TAGGING NOTES: TWO PICKEREL CAUGHT, TAGGED AND RELEASED THROUGH THE ICE WERE RECAPTURED ONE HOUR LATER AT DIFFERENT TIP-UPS 200 AND 125 FEET AWAY. BOTH TOOK ANOTHER MINNOW AND DIDN'T SEEM BOTHERED BY THEIR TAGGING EXPERIENCES AT WAPPINGER FALLS, N.Y. BY TOM LAKE JAN. 5, 1984.



A SHORT-HANDLED GAFF WILL HELP LAND A BIG FISH AT THE CRITICAL MOMENT. ALWAYS TRY FOR THE MIDDLE OF THE LOWER JAW.

A SIX-INCH HOLE IS BIG ENOUGH.

GOOD SAMARITANS

by Matt Ahern

My drop line and I were doing fine with the Sandy Hook fluke that day. I had finally gotten the knack. Every few minutes I'd swing a fluke over the rail, quickly remove the hook, toss the surprised fish into the butter tub, put on a fresh killie and go down and get another one. Yes sir, I'd finally gotten the hang of it.

I had the tub half full when this elderly fisherman sidled up beside me. He watched as I unhooked a fluke and then he tapped me gently on the arm. "Hey, kid, when you gonna stop fooling around like this and become a real fisherman?"

I suppose there were kids those days who would have told that old-timer to mind his own business, but a 15-year-old's deportment in 1930 when aboard such a sedate party boat as Canarsie's Rose R II was strictly low key. And besides, I'm sure this old-timer actually did consider my fishing activity his business, for certainly during those days of the Great Depression "I am my brother's keeper" applied and was practiced on a daily basis by many. This old fisherman knew I understood what he meant, of course, but in case I was slow on the up-take, he added: "When you gonna get yourself a rod and reel and have some real fun?"

"Soon as I can afford it," I replied.

"That bad, eh? Tell you what kid. I know you're on board every Thursday, so check me out next week. I'll have something for you."

That "Something' I received the following week was a sidewinder reel. It had been well used, but I didn't care. Its freshly-varnished maple sides glistened in the morning sun, and its two knobbed handles wore a coat of glossy blood-red enamel. It came complete with 100 yards of nine-thread Irish linen line. It was beautiful!

And you know, after more than a half-century, I still have that reel. I wouldn't part with it for the world. I no longer use it; but if ever I decided to, all I would need to do is place it on my rod. Perhaps a drop of light oil on its solid brass shaft would be required, but that's all.

As we are on the subject of reels, I better tell you the story of another sidewinder I own. This one I wouldn't part with, either.

Those of you who have read these weekly articles for any length of time know that I devote many stories about those old-time master fishermen who sailed on party boats during the days of my youth—especially aboard the Rose R II. These fishermen were a breed unto themselves. I doubt we'll ever see their kind again. It was those sad days of yesteryear that brought forth the inherest kindness and compassion of these great fishermen.

Most of these fellows were rough and ready. They were living through the worst of times and they were making it. No longer were they frightened by the events and economy of the day, for no matter what those terrible times brought, they were secure in the knowledge that they could handle it. And this confidence, this elan, if you will, was apparent in all their actions when fishing aboard party boats of the day.

"This is why I write of these old-time fishermen who taught a knee-pants Brooklyn street kid what it meant to be a man in a dog eat dog world."

One of these fellows was Andy Goetz of Ridgewood. I was always a little frightened of Andy. Huge and boisterous, possessor of a face lined by weather and tracked by wrinkles and complete with a voice that seemed harsh enough to crack glass, Andy never paid much attention to me. Occasionally as he squeezed by my spot at the rail, he would jab sausage-like fingers in my ribs. "Knock 'em dead, Marty boy; knock 'em dead," he would whisper in my ear as he passed by. This was the extent of his interest in me. Or so I thought.

I was ever on the alert for information regarding such master fishermen and it wasn't long before I heard rumors that Andy had invented a new type sidewinder reel, which he planned to soon put on the market. He called it the U-Needa-Reel. Its sides I'd been told were of brown Bakelite and came in two sizes: 3½ and 5 inches.

I was on board the morning Andy showed up with a carton of those reels, which I felt certain he wanted to sell. I was hoping he wouldn't ask me, for no matter what the cost, kids during those times were lucky if they had two nickels to rub together. Therefore, when he approached me, I suddenly discovered a distant sea gull which needed my undivided attention.

As I knew he would, Andy stopped before me and said in that gravel-like voice: "Here, Marty boy, this is for you." He held out a blue and white cardboard box which I knew contained a reel.

"For me?" I stupidly asked.

"Sure for you. All my buddies get free reels. What's the matter, kid, don't you want it?"

Now, tell me, how are you going to beat guys like that? Those fishermen, as I said, were rough and ready for anything; but it was all a sham, for they were pussycats in their hearts. Of course, I've got that reel squirreled away, and to even consider parting with it pains me greatly.

I now had two reels, certainly an embarrassment of riches for a 15-year-old fisherman those days—but I had no rod. A good rod at the time for the type of party boat fishing we did those days cost about six dollars. But as far as I was concerned, it might just as well have been 100 dollars. But those good Samaritans once again came to the rescue.

During those days, the Rose R's regulars always left their tackle in the wheel house at the end of a day's fishing. It was extremely convenient to do this, especially if one traveled by public transportation. Some of the more affluent fishermen had shore lockers which they rented by the year. But these fellows were few and far between. Therefore, one corner of the wheel house was set aside for this convenient storage of rods and reels. There were several dozen outfits stored there, but no one would think of using another's tackle without permission, regardless of what misfortune befell him during the day—a broken rod, let's say, or a malfunctioning reel.

One of those regulars who stored his tackle in the wheel house was a Belgian we called Babe. I can see him yet: heavy-set, ruddy complexion, a face like a cherub, always hatless, and always cheerful. He was a great fellow for telling jokes, and also a great fellow for giving me the old heave-ho when I wandered too close

during the telling of certain stories.

Anyway, to make a long story short, Babe died. One of his wishes was that his funeral be held aboard the Rose R II, and that his ashes be scattered overboard by his wife. I was aboard that day and witnessed the service only because Babe's wife had requested the presence of all his fishing buddies. As she told me on the way in, "Babe always liked you, Marty."

Well, several weeks passed. One day as I came aboard, Dick Persson, the skipper, called me aside. "Here, Marty, take Babe's rod. I know he'd want you to have it."

It was a beautiful rod, handcrafted of lancewood, with tip, guides, reel seat, and ferrule of German silver. I may be prejudiced, but to this day I believe that rod had a finer action than any rod I've owned since. I used it for cod, blacks, fluke, sea bass, porgies and so on.

But I no longer have it.

Through my own bit of carelessness, it went overboard one December day while codfishing during a brutal northeaster. Would you like to know where that rod went overboard? South of the Cholera Bank—in the same vicinity in which Babe's funeral was held! Makes you think, doesn't it?

Even today, more than 50 years later, whenever my buddy Artie Leidecker and I fish cod in that area, I can't help but think of Babe and that beautiful rod.

But it wasn't only fishing tackle I received from those good Samaritans. Heavy winter clothing for codfishing came my way, too. Most of this was World War I surplus and came from veterans of that war. Among other things, I was given a Navy pea jacket and a leather Army vest with an olive drab wool lining (which certainly kept my chest warm many a cold winter's day). Those fellows were hell-bent to see that I was properly dressed for the occasion. Even foul weather gear and hip high boots came my way.

One more little item and we'll call this a day.

Any healthy 15 or 16 year old boy has the appetite of a horse. And I was no exception. The meager two scrambled egg sandwiches I brought along on each trip were always devoured before the boat left the pier. But extra sandwiches and free sodas came my way from good-natured passengers, many of whom called me "Shadow" after a bottomless pit type of guy in the comics of the day. Some of these good souls even had their wives put up extra lunch for "that kid with the hollow legs."

So—this is the way it was when I was kid on party boats. This is why I write as I do of these old-time fishermen who taught a knee-pants Brooklyn street kid what it meant to be a man in a dog eat dog world. And to be a man, too.

As I mentioned earlier, never will we see the like of such fishermen again. But once—just once—I'd like to relive one of those days.

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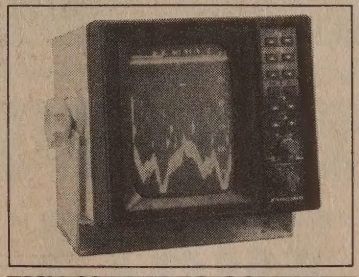

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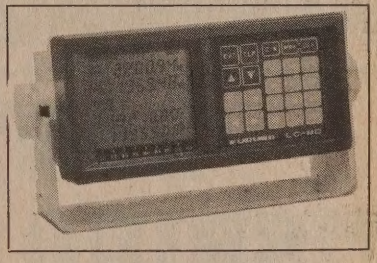

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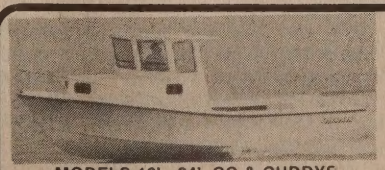

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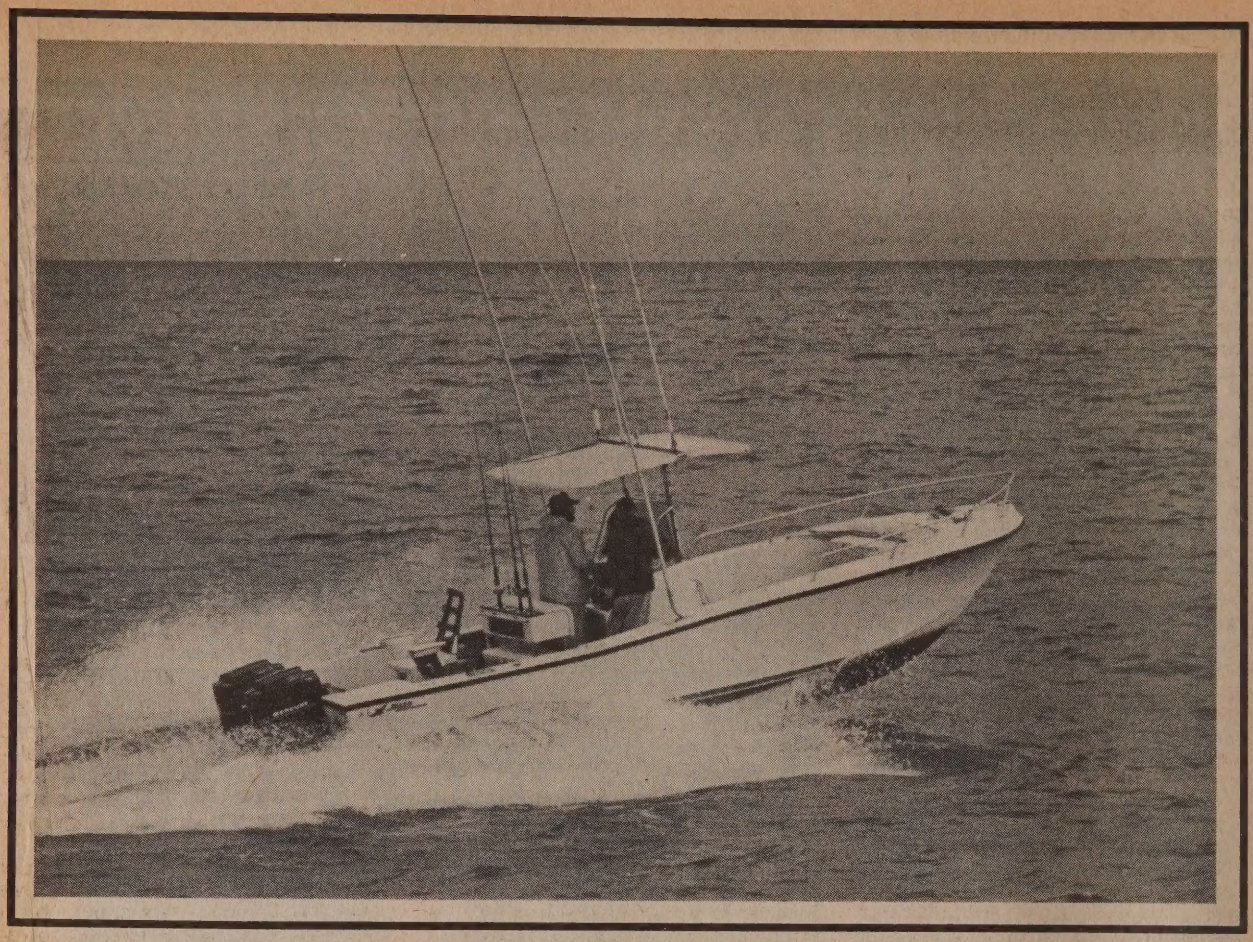


BANTAM WEIGHT FISHING BOATS FOR 1986

Part Two—*by John Raguso*

Sea Craft: This Tampa, Florida boat-builder has two exciting new offerings for 1986. The first, as rumored in last year's "What's New" column, is their 27 foot center console cabin Canyon runner. This hull weighs in at a little over 5,000 lbs. without power, and the twin 150 gal. fuel cells should provide more than enough range for the offshore clan. The list of standard features includes twin 12 gal. circular baitwells with aerators, a cavernous 40" x 24" x 24" fish-box and twin 6½' cabin bunks. Initial performance tests with dual 200 Merc outboards indicate this middleweight is capable of speeds in the mid-40s—and that's cooking! Of course, some fanatics will be tempted to bolt on a pair of V-8s to the transom; so if this is your style, don't forget the optional seat belts!

Seriously, this hull has excellent heritage and is a larger/updated version of Sea Craft's original patented Variable Deadrise Hull (VDH). The design particulars feature reversed horizontal strakes which provide a minimal, but knife-like profile under the waterline, resulting in an air-cushioned ride as a residual benefit. The bottom line lets you take full advantage of today's higher horsepower motors for a faster offshore cruising speed that won't make you a candidate for the chiropractor.

Sea Craft's second nuance for '86 is a walkaround layout for their classic 23' hull. This platform is the same beast that first made fishing 50 miles offshore in small outboards a practical reality in the early 70s. The walkaround cuddy is a welcome addition to the 23 lineup, which includes a center console and small cuddy configuration. This new design offers 360 degree access, a 100 percent hand lay-up hull, 115 gal. fuel tank, a 25 gal. circular live well, twin cabin bunks and 25 inches of cockpit freeboard. You should be seeing quite a few of these capable craft on the shark and tuna grounds this coming season.

Sea Ox: 1986 portends no major lineup changes for this North Carolina manufacturer. Their popular product line of 18 and 20 foot dual consoles; 18, 20 and 23 foot center consoles; and 20, 23 and 26 foot walkaround cuddy boats remains intact for this current model year. Most hulls feature a modified vee design with foam flotation, stainless hardware and adequate fishbox and fuel tank capacity.

Black Fin: At the upper limits of affordability in our bantam battlewagon classification is the Florida manufacturer's new 27 design. Actually measuring 27' 8" L.O.A. with a 9' 9" beam, this heavy duty hull tips the Toledo at approximately 9,000 lbs.

with power. Black Fin offers the 27 in either a center console cabin version (outboard and sea drive only) or with dual consoles (gas or diesel inboards). With 24 degrees of transom deadrise, this true deep vee's sharp entry should slice easily through a 4 to 6 foot head sea with minimum discomfort. A standard 240 gal. fuel cell with a 50 gal. option should give the long range canyon angler more than enough peace of mind, but if gas engines are your choice, beware. The deep vee's design and weight will surely work against you at the fuel dock.

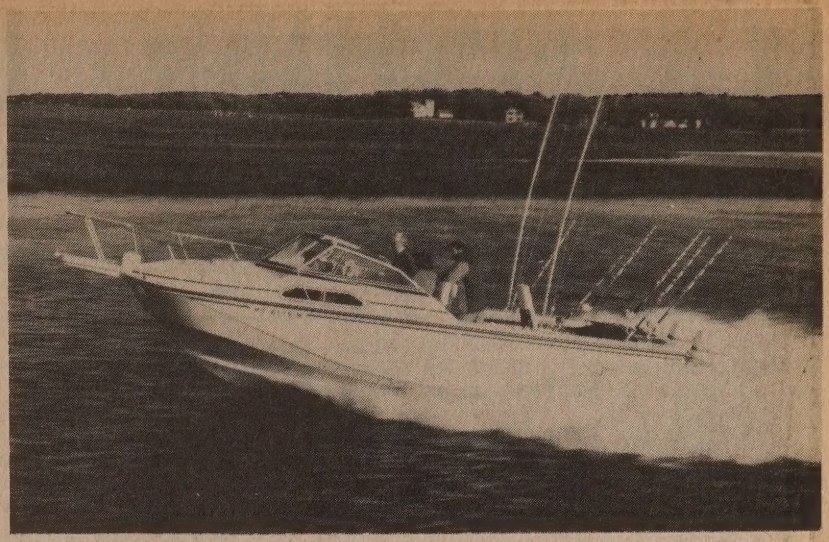
Boston Whaler: For the '86 model year, this Rockland, Massachusetts boat builder has introduced a few practical variations on its popular 26' 7'' x 10' beam offshore hull which was first unveiled in 1985. The Whaler 27 now comes in center console cabin and two different cuddy cabin configurations. The CCC offers the convenience of a centralized command console with 360 degrees of fish fighting room, in addition to a small cuddy to store gear or to take a short respite from the elements. The cabin models come in two formats. One design features a smaller living area forward and an expanded cockpit, whereas the other increases the cabin area at the expense of less cockpit space.

All three craft come with a 170 gal. fuel capacity, full foam flotation and a 10 year hull warranty. The cabin boats also come standard with a 30 gal. freshwater tank. Available power is outboard, outboard bracket, sea drive and I/O.

Oceanic: This professional organization run by Manuel Hernandez and his family, is Hialeah, Florida's ''other'' fiberglass fishing boat builder. Before the company started its operation a few years ago, most of the Oceanic team spent many years learning the trade at their crosstown rival's plant, so the nuances of quality lay-up construction are not a foreign subject to them.

New for '86 is a full cuddy cabin boat based on their 21 x 8 foot beam. This boat was so successful as a center console, that the company decided to offer a cuddy version and they've also increased the fuel capacity to 85 gal., which will certainly please the New York Bight crowd who frequently venture 30 to 40 miles offshore in search of the pelagic sharks, marlin and tuna. Available power options are outboard, outboard bracket and I/O. Also on the horizon for the Oceanic product line is a 23 foot walkaround cuddy and a 29 foot flybridge; but, I'll tell you more on these in future articles.

Robalo: The one ''new'' design that many manufacturers who specialize in offshore craft are gravitating towards for this model year seems to be the center console cabin. Robalo is no exception to this rule and they've introduced their model 2680, which is based on a 26' x 8' 6'' beam platform. Actually the CCC was first popularized by the 26' Pacemaker Wahoo in the late 70s and by Aquasport's 246 outboard model which hit the scene in 1980, but was discontinued only a few years later. Maybe these boats were ahead of their time, because the CCC is certainly the rage for '86.



Boston Whaler's 27 is rapidly gaining in popularity. It is available in three different layout options.

The Robalo CCC features a 240 gal. fuel capacity and checks-in at 4000 lbs., without power, which is consistent with their tradition of beefy construction. The hull and deck are 100 percent hand-laid fiberglass and the Robalo folks claim it has full level flotation, which is unique for a boat of this size. It comes with a comprehensive list of standard features and it should be a popular choice for the canyon clique.

Tiara: Leon Slikkers and the crew from Holland, Michigan continue to break new ground in the boating industry for 1986. Besides being on the leading edge of fiberglass technology in their use of such materials as modified epoxy resin and Contourkore end-grain balsa in their hull and deck construction, they've now extended their hull warranty to five years.

New for this model year is the 2550 Pursuit Center Cabin. This walkaround design is based on a 24' 9'' x 8' 6'' beam hull and comes in either outboard, single or twin sea drive, single or twin outboard bracket and single I/O power formats.

With the advent of many states expanding their highway's legal trailerable beam limits to 8' 9'' (in excess of 30 states), the door is now opened for many manufacturers to increase the beam measurements on their respective products from the 8' standard. An increase of 6'' or 9'' might not sound like much, but when you multiply it by the length of the boat, you can pick up an additional 5 to 8 square feet of valuable space, much of it in the cockpit. Unfortunately, economies of scale dictate that boat builders must get ''X'' amount of hulls out of each mold, due to the high cost of research and development, so don't expect everyone to jump on the 8 foot plus beam bandwagon just yet, since they probably have some mileage left on the old equipment. Tiara designed their 2600 cuddy and 2550 Walkaround models from scratch around this new beam measurement, so they had planned for it before the new law had taken effect.

Tiara's 2550 features a 154 gal. fuel capacity in its outboard and sea drive configurations, and this should be a big hit for those with offshore aspirations. The I/O power mode affords only an 86 gal. tank, so if you want to do any serious fishing in the 30 fathom zone or deeper, you'd be best advised to stay with the 2-cycle powerplants and the larger fuel cell. This baby weighs in at 3200 lbs. without power and should provide a stab bluewater platform that's not short on creature comforts.

Chapparal: This Georgia boat builder keeps its stable of fishing machines unchanged for '86, with a minor exception. Their 234 cabin boat now comes with a sea drive option for increased usable deck space. Also offered are 19 and 21 foot walkaround designs, a 19 foot dual console model and a 24 foot cuddy cabin.

For those prospective buyers who desire to know a little bit more of what stuff their dream boats are made from the Chapparal catalog lists an actual laminate schedule which details the number of layers of fiberglass reinforcing material used in the hull and sides in the manufacturing process. This is a novel approach and indicates the confidence they show in their finished product, because this invites the inevitable comparisons. Since you can't always judge a book by its cover, or its shiny exterior gel coat, this data is the real ''meat and potatoes'' of buying a boat old or new, and I'd like to see some of the other industry people follow suit by putting this down in writing for consumer edification.

ICE FISHING BASICS

by Jim Capossela

The dead of winter provides some lively entertainment for the well prepared ice fisherman.

It's 2PM and Frank Gifford is revving up in the control room. The Bears win the toss and a fair runback leaves them at the 28.

"McMahon sets deep in the pocket—he has good protection" Gifford says. "He's looking for Payton" O.J. chimes in. "He's got him!"

You settle deep into your arm chair, gripping a can of Budweiser anxiously, and watch as Payton swirls off one tackler after another. As he cuts across field and down, something amazing happens. You **become** Payton. You're running effortlessly now, with the wind on your neck. Then something even more astonishing happens—the players, the coaches, the screaming fans all begin to fade away! The field has become a wintry white, the bleachers a tract of somber, snow-filled woods. As you continue running down the ice, you look to your right. A second flag! It's not a penalty though, it's a reward. A reward for braving the winter cold. Five minutes later your two shimmering prizes lay flopping on the ice.

Congratulations! Not only have you broken away from the tedium of mid-winter football, you've iced a pair of fine three pound pickerel to boot!

I've been out ice fishing when it was zero with a steady 20 mile an hour wind blowing. Believe me, it's still not as bad as deer hunting, steelheading or codfishing. You can move around more, and sometimes even make a fire. With sound thought to clothing, an ice fishing trip is the perfect alternative to that dumbest of all species, **Tubus americanus**. If you've never tried ice fishing, this article will provide basic information on gear plus some tips on technique.

But why do it? The Bud is cold, the living room warm, and William "The Refrigerator" Perry just knocked out 17 teeth and then chewed through the goal post out of sheer elation. In looking through McClane's New Standard Fishing Encyclopedia, I came across this excellent rationale for braving the harsh elements:

"The general character of ice fishing differs so greatly from that of conventional forms of angling that the unique qualities which account for its widespread popularity are worthy of identification. Perhaps its single greatest fascination is the drastic change in the relationship between man and water brought about by the dramatic appearance of the ice itself. The waters which now lie hidden beneath the frozen surface immediately become a dark, sealed-off mystery and thus pose a tantalizing and compelling challenge to the fisherman. Yet at the same time, the latter is suddenly accorded an intriguing advantage; he can walk about boldly on a surface which is normally immune to any such approach. There is a tense expectancy... which has no counterpart elsewhere in angling."

This is certainly as well put a summary of why to go ice fishing as ever you are going to find! But before you rush out now and buy your five tip-ups, remember that you first must cut a hole in the ice.

There are three basic ways: an ice chisel (ice bar or spud), a hand auger and a power auger. Here in southern New York, where thin ice is far more often the problem than thick ice, an ice chisel can sometimes take you through the whole season. These bars are sold wherever ice fishing tackle is displayed.

The face of the chisel does not have to be too wide. One of the best fishermen I know comes out with this rusty, bent little chisel no more than an inch and a half across. I prefer one of about 3 to 3½ inches. Keep a flat file about one inch wide in your sled to keep that bar sharp.

There is only one very cold winter in ten around here. But even in a moderate one, the ice can start to push the one-foot mark. This is not so much true on ocean-moderated Long Island as it is in the Hudson Valley. Actually, for over 5 inches of ice I use my hand auger, which is not only easier but causes less noise (a serious consideration when trout are the target).

There are two types of hand augers: spoon and corkscrew. The former run about $20 to $35, while the corkscrew goes for maybe $35 to $55. I like the corkscrew which I think cuts faster and, as the name tells you, is shaped

A Lake Ronkonkoma angler, bundled against the cold, tends his tip-up with a thermos of hot soup at the ready. ***Photo by Tom Schlichter.***

like a screw to clean out the hole.

An interesting and much debated question is what size auger to use. They go by inches: with a 4 inch you get a 4 inch hole; with a 5 inch, a 5 inch hole, etc. I'm hooked on trout and seldom fish in lakes lacking trout, so I like big holes.

One day, a character up my way known as "Johnny Big Nose" came out on Lake Gilead where myself and several other regulars were camped. In spite of our warnings about Gilead's big lakers, Johnny started cutting little four and five inch holes. My pal Jimmy and I left early that day. But we came back the next day and saw a lone figure two-thirds of the way down the lake. It was Johnny Big Nose, and mister you should've seen the size of his holes! Seems the day before he lost a big laker that wouldn't fit up through the hole he'd cut. I stepped back very cautiously from the 14 inch "lakes" he'd carved this time.

If you're going to fish for strictly panfish and around here that means mostly white and yellow perch, a four inch auger is fine. If pickerel or bass are present, better stick to a 5 or 6 inch. My corkscrew is a 7 inch which makes for harder work, but I like that extra diameter. They make 8 inch hand augers, but quick geometric figuring will tell you that an 8 inch will greatly increase the hole circumference and the amount of ice you cut. An 8 inch hand auger is **tough** work!

Power augers run from maybe $150 to $200 and more. A good sharp corkscrew hand auger will serve you even with 15 inches of ice, but when you're consistently facing that much hard stuff, a power auger is really the ticket. In the Catskills, Adirondacks and further north, where there is thick ice every year, a power auger will ream through 20 inches of ice in seconds. I'd suggest you get an 8 or 9 inch power auger—no less.

There are two primary ways to fish through the ice: tip-ups and jigging. Tip-ups come in several commercial types and a whole menagerie of homemade types. We'll talk more about custom tip-ups in a near future Fisherman article.

In the commercial lot, there are two genres: topwater and underwater. The tip-up familiar to most is the underwater style. Here, the spool is suspended down in the drink, while four other "legs" support the whole device via a criss-cross pattern on top of the ice. There is always a trip mechanism so when a fish takes, some type of signal is given. Most often this signal is a red flag, which springs up and gets everybody's heart going a little faster. (My friend Rich Alvord uses black flags, claiming they show better against snow and ice, and calls them his "jolly rogers.")

A beginner should know an important item: a topwater tip-up will cause you problems whenever the temperature is below 32 degrees because the line and spool will freeze up. I strongly recommend the underwater type. I could count on the fingers of a butcher's left hand the number of "nice" days I've had ice fishing, when the temperature was up and the wind was down.

Don't use all monofilament. The best is a combination of some heavy, large diameter line and a mono leader of a size and strength suitable to the place and species. For the main line, dacron is hard to beat. It stretches but little, and doesn't absorb water. Thus it stays relatively pliable and manageable even when wet and laying coiled on the ice. One hundred yards is enough, but the super cautious will go ahead and wrap 150 yards on anyway. Use at least 30 lb. test. Heavier won't hurt.

There are now specialty ice fishing lines on the market, but while I've written away for information, I haven't yet gotten my hands on any. One is called "Flag" No Freeze tip-up line. You might start to look for it in stores this winter. There are also some very new innovations I am trying to track down.

For perch, bass and pickerel—a trio often found together by the ice fisherman—I would use about 10 feet of 6 to 8 lb. test mono leader. If bigger pickerel, pike or walleye were brooding around, I'd use a 10 lb., no more. If it's just perch, I'll stick to four.

For trout, light line is critically important. If the ice is clear and I'm fishing fairly shallow, I'll definitely use a 4 lb. clear mono leader (no fluorescent or gaudy colored lines please!). If it's murky and/or I'm fishing deeper (as for lakers) I'll go to 6 lb., but I had to do it. There is no faster way to cut down on your odds on trout. To connect leader to running line, I always use black swivels, never brass or silver.

By the way, a neophyte might wonder why the heavy line for tip-ups. The main reason is that this line won't freeze up as badly as mono, and will be less likely to catch on little chips of ice around the hole. The thicker line is also easier to bring up by hand. There are other reasons too.

With tip-ups you will most often use small baitfish although I know on Long Island worms are for some reason very popular. I believe the big-bait, big-fish theory has merit, but I'm not a slave to it. For perch, stick to small shiners, one to one and a half inches. If you want pickerel, bass or trout, go with mediums (2-3 inches). I believe that big fish will usually take a medium bait with just as much relish, and I know for a fact that large bait will cause more lost fish in ice fishing. You just don't have that leverage for striking or fighting fish.

Use loose hooks, from size #10 on down to about #2 depending on bait size. However, for trout, I'd advise using a tiny #12 treble hook. You will not usually catch many throw-back fish that you might worry about killing with that treble; in fact you'll probably catch precious few trout through the ice. That treble hook holds like an ace, and to my mind one lost trout in winter is one too many.

Use a split shot sometimes, but not too heavy a one. This is one of the biggest mistakes ice fishermen make. What you want is for that baitfish to be slowly pulled down to the set depth, wiggling and squirming all the while. As we'll discuss, sometimes you don't want him down at all.

There is not too much other gear required. A must is a small ice skimmer which will clean the chipped

(Continued on next page.)

ICE FISHING DESTINATIONS FOR THE LONG ISLAND BASED FISHERMAN

Lake or Pond	County	Best Ice Fishing Species
On Long Island:		
Ronkonkoma	Suffolk	White perch, yellow perch, largemouth bass
Patchogue Lakes (East, West, Patchgue)	Suffolk	Yellow perch, sunnies, bass
Laurel Lake	Suffolk	Bass, pickerel, trout
Fort Pond	Suffolk	Large & smallmouth bass, hybrid striped bass
Lower Hudson Valley:		
Candlewood Lake	Fairfield, CT	Trout, pickerel, panfish
NYC Watershed Lakes (permit required) 13 open to ice fishing	Westchester and Putnam	Rainbow, brown and lake trout, white and yellow perch, pickerel
Sylvan Lake	Dutchess	Trout, panfish, kokanee
Queechy Lake	Columbia	Trout, pickerel
Catskills and Upstate:		
White Lake	Sullivan	Lake trout, perch
Lake George	Warren	Trout, lake trout, landlocked salmon
Lake Champlain	Essex and Clinton	Trout, salmon, smelt, pike family, panfish, others

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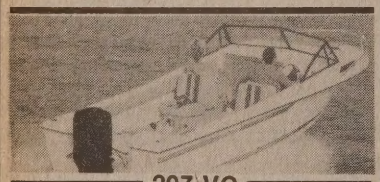

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ice out of the hole (and later skim off new ice that forms). Another must is a depth sounder. You attach this device to your unbaited hook, lower it to the bottom then pull up a few feet or however far off bottom you care to be. You then mark your line at that point by attaching a paper clip, button or some similar marker. You then pull your line up, remove the sounder, and drop your now-baited hook down to the marked point. Thus you know that you are exactly one foot, or two feet or whatever off bottom. Even better, if you catch a fish, you can immediately go back to the same depth.

A jig pole is a deadly weapon for the ice fisherman. Here, you still have to cut a hole, but then you just start fishing without the hassle of setting up and later taking in tip ups.

Jig poles are short. My homemade ones are only two feet long, some go to three feet. You really can't use a standard pole because it will back you too far away from the hole and then how do you coax in a good-sized fish? Some commercial types impart subtle action to the bait through use of a little lever. These are called "Strumming" rods or possibly "Thrumming" rods (the latter a brand name I believe). Most often, though, you provide the action by jigging the lure up and down. Most jigs are designed to be fished vertically, i.e. strictly up and down. A few, though, are shaped like minnows and with the right rod action will actually swim in circles. Many successful fishermen like to "sweeten" the hook of the jig with a "mousie grub" (larval worm sold by some bait shops in winter) or even with a perch eye or sliver of fish.

Use all mono on your jig poles. Carry two poles so you can have the choice of two different line weights. For lures, I have used the Swedish Pimples for a long time with good results. There are doubtless many other types of similar jigs that work too. In the pimples, I like a 2 or 3n for perch, the 4n for trout and the 6n for lake trout.

Do you know me? Probably not, at least not if you saw me on the ice. That's why I should carry the American Express Card. I don't, but I do carry a gaff, don't leave home without it!

There is just no viable way to get a big fish up through the ice. You must gaff it. A couple of years ago, Kevin Brown hooked a seventeen pound laker on one of the local watershed lakes. He never thought he'd get it up, but my friend Bill Rutherford was there and he gaffed the fish and held it while the hole was enlarged. I personally have lost trout of 10 pounds or better due to not having a gaff (that doesn't happen any more though). It's best to carry your gaff right on your belt. Don't run to a flag without it, because you just can't run back to your sled and get it if a large fish is on the business end of your line. A surf belt might be just the ticket for this. Bill Rutherford carries an extension gaff because he lost fish on Champlain and other far north lakes where the ice gets extremely thick.

The more I fish, the more I see that strict attention to details often spells the difference. I've gotten very fussy about gear and how I carry it.

Like many ice fishermen, I made my own ice fishing sled. There are as many types as there are fishermen, as most are homemade, but they all have one thing in common: They are heavy and bulky. So what I do is just leave my sled in the truck the whole season, and it thus serves as a master tackle box. If the specific fishing spot is relatively close to the road, and especially if I plan to set out tip-ups (which requires more stuff), I'll take the sled knowing I have everything I need in there. However if there's a considerable walk, perhaps even through the woods, I'll take the essentials out of the sled and put them in my pack basket. This leaves both hands free: one for auger and the other for bait bucket. Any fish caught can come back in the bait bucket.

I love to cook fish and game, and nothing but nothing tastes or smells as good as fresh fillets sizzling over the ice. The dilemma is this: It just cuts too much into your time and concentration. Once in a while, a few times a year or when I have an entourage with me, I'll throw one more item into the truck. It's an old vegetable crate that sits just right on top of my ice sled. In it are Coleman stove all gassed up, old coffee pot, frypan and pot, a few plastic cups and utensils, and a little box with small bottles of seasonings, bread crumbs, oil, etc. It's best to bring something that you just have to heat up, like stew or chili. Of course the bread crumbs are in case you get lucky.

I don't like my fish to freeze up on the ice so I now stringer all my ice-caught fish. As soon as I arrive I cut a hole and drop the stringer into the water with the topside hook fixed to a handle of my ice sled. I also believe this kind of positive thinking helps.

As a full-time outdoor writer and publisher, I make my own schedule so I have the luxury of taking the following piece of advice: Fish like hell that whole first week of good ice! I'll trade the whole rest of the season for it from a fish-catching standpoint.

Why is first ice so remarkably better than later ice? I believe it has to do with oxygen production, possibly the number one factor in ice fishing.

Broadly speaking, there are two types of lakes or ponds: Oligotrophic and Eutrophic. The former is typically deeper, less nutrient-enriched (i.e. less fertile) and always better oxygenated. Glacial lakes are characteristically oligotrophic. Eutrophic lakes are usually shallower, weedier, more fertile and less oxygenated. Knowing what winter does to each is extremely important to the ice fisherman.

When ice first forms, it is clear and does not significantly block the sun.

Photosynthesis in aquatic plants continues, and oxygen may be good at all levels (or at least all levels normal for that particular lake). I pray for no snow after the ice first forms, because snow clouds up the ice, reduces photosynthesis and causes oxygen levels to drop sharply. This can and does shut the fishing down astonishingly fast, seemingly overnight. As winter advances, oxygen levels first plummet in the deeper waters. Especially in a eutrophic lake, fish may begin to concentrate nearer the surface. With notably littoral species like pickerel and largemouth, shallow water near shore may be the only place to look. By winter's end, the only adequate oxygen may be from the surface down ten feet, even in a fairly large lake. In an oligotrophic lake, satisfactory oxygen levels will remain higher and at greater depths. I don't know this for sure but reduced oxygen may simply reduce fish activity. It is a certainty that for most species in most places fishing worsens as the ice becomes more cloudy and/or thicker and/or especially snow-covered.

What type of lake is yours? The more eutrophicated it is the shallower you may have to fish in winter. In a trout lake, deeper and probably oligotrophic, oxygen may still be greatly reduced below a certain depth. And trout have a much greater oxygen need than many other species.

One conclusion is certainly to take advantage of that first, clear ice. Another is to not necessarily fish just off or on bottom. One lake I know, the best action to rainbow trout is with nightcrawlers suspended twenty or more feet off the bottom! This certainly can't look too natural to the trout, but it works. Also, as mentioned earlier, try just a very tiny split shot or none at all with your baitfish. He will swim for a long time just under the ice where air pockets often exist. The tiniest split shot most tackle stores sell are too big. Go to a fly fishing show and look for those assortments of miniscule split shot used to weigh nymphs and tiny flies.

Don't be afraid to fish shallow. When you do, top-water tip ups are an advantage because there is no rude foreign object intruding on the fish's world. This is especially helpful when you're fishing for pickerel and you're only in five to ten feet of water in the first place. If you use topwater tip-ups in the shallows, bring along some ¼-inch plywood, two pieces to a tip-up, and "fit" it around the tip-up. Paint it a medium gray. I think this blocks the sun somewhat and helps when you're really in tight to shore.

This article has been geared mainly for the beginning ice fisherman. In an upcoming issue, I will be revealing some amazing secrets of Bill Rutherford, a legendary fisherman based in southern New York. Titled "Ice Fishing Secrets Of A Master" this will be an article that neither beginning nor veteran ice fishermen should miss!

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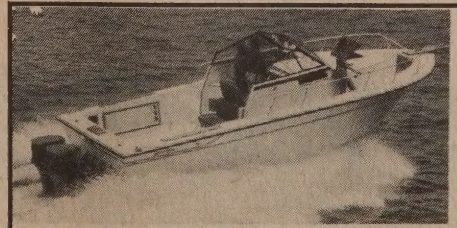

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CUSTOM BAIT BOARD

by Jim White & John Jollie

I can't begin to tell you how many times we've been fishing and wished we had one of those nice expensive teak bait boards to clean our fish on or cut up chum.

We've tried many boards of all different type woods, painted, epoxied, varnished. You name it, we've tried it. Mounting it on the boat was the same story, a pain in the neck. Clamps, screws, drill more holes and in the end the board either broke, cracked, warped or otherwise becomes unserviceable and another one was needed after just a few seasons.

So we figured there just had to be some way to eliminate all that aggravation and some way to make a serviceable one. The first problem we had to solve was to find the right kind of board for the cutting. It had to be one which would withstand continual cutting of bait over a long period of time; one which also would not warp or crack and that would hold up to the rigors of the marine environment.

We also wanted this board to be light in weight and subject to easy and frequent cleaning. Sounds almost impossible, doesn't it?

When we got down to looking around for it and talking to different people almost everyone we spoke to said the same thing, "You're nuts." Only teak we were told could measure up to those standards. Well, never underestimate the power of a determined fisherman to solve almost any problem when his fishing enjoyment is at stake.

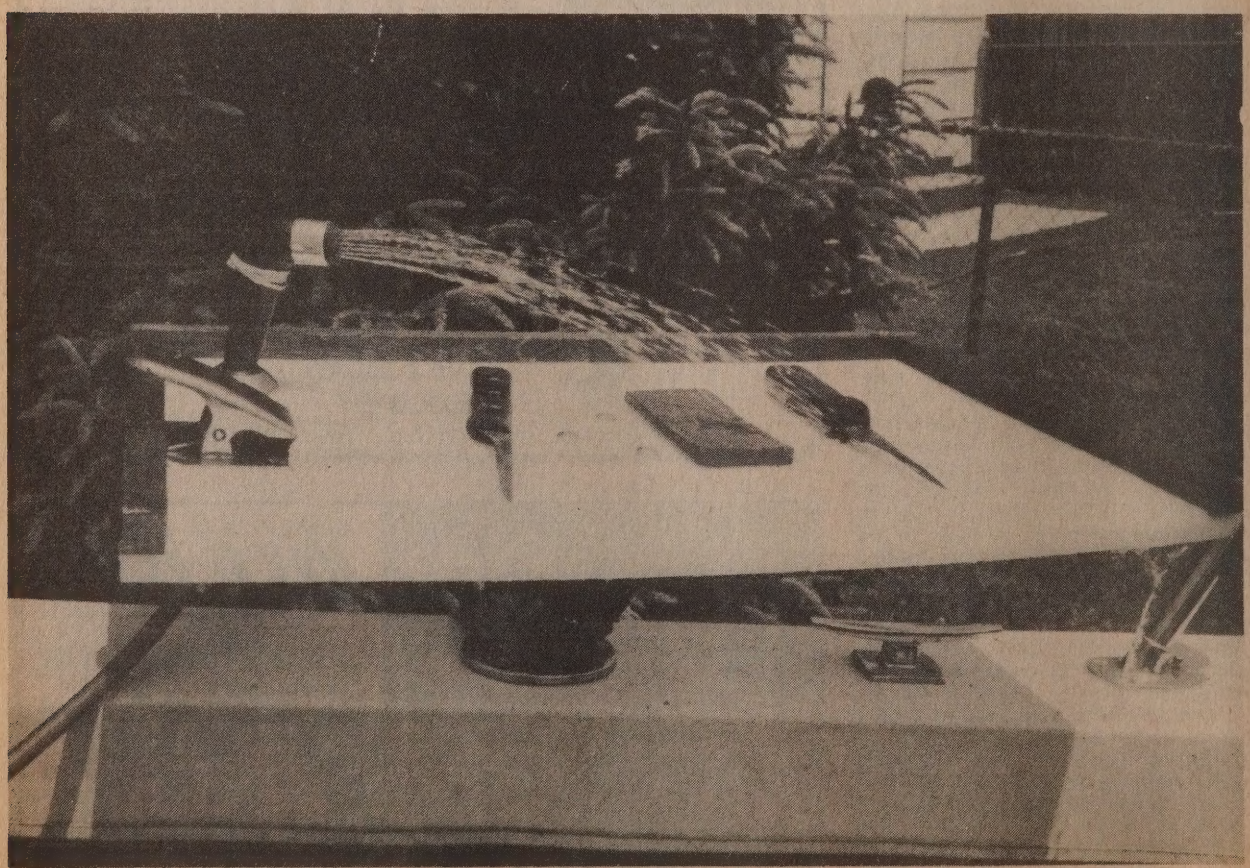
What we found is a board called Cut Rite or Sani-Dek. It's a commercial cutting board sold to restaurants and commercial fishing houses. Made from a new formulation of hard rubber and plastic, it'll outlast wood cutting boards 15 to 1. The surface is self-healing and won't crack, splinter or chip. Its surface also protects the edge on your fillet knives and they stay sharper longer.

There are no crevices in the board for bacteria or odor to build up, which is a real plus if you're using mackerel or menhaden for chum. We all know what that can smell like after a day in the hot summer sun. The board is also non-absorbent and cleans with ordinary cleaning solutions and a wet cloth. So even if you cover it with bloods, guts and scales, it'll clean up just like new with a little soap and water.

Another feature which makes this board a real bargain is that even after using it for years, it can be resurfaced using conventional wood working equipment. The board comes in three sizes to fit most boatmen's cutting needs: 12 x 18, 15 x 20 and 18 x 24 inches. After three years of use ours is still like brand new.

Now, you're probably wondering where we found such a gem. We bought ours from Memphis Net and Twine Co., Inc., 2481 Matthews Ave., P.O. Box 8331, Memphis, Tenn. 38108. The boards range in price from $16.46 to $32.38 and come in half inch thick slabs.

Our next problem was to find a



Bait board shown in gunwale rod holder set up for cleaning fish or cutting up chum. Running water helps the task go faster and makes it a much cleaner job.

border to put on top of three sides to enclose the cutting area to keep spills and fish parts from going all over the boat and making a mess. Here the nod went to the teak wood. We searched the local wood stores until we came across some scrap teak that we could buy at a reasonable price. We then had these cut into one inch square lengths measured to fit the sides of the board. Stained in Cupirnol and given three coats of marine varnish we figured it would hold up for a reasonable amount of time. After 3 years, it's still in good shape.

These teak strips were now ready to be fastened to the board, for this we chose 3/4" long stainless steel screws which were inserted from underneath the board and up into the teak strips, thus eliminating unsightly screw heads on top.

Now came the hardest part of all in this project. How to make the board fit in the gunwale rod holder? This really drove us crazy, the angle was always off: the board tilted to the left, the right, or just otherwise didn't sit straight.

We finally took a rod holder to a machinist friend of ours and explained our dilemma. Well, come to find out the angle on these rod holders aren't like anything commercially made. We mean it's really crazy, something like 37½ degrees. At this point, we almost quit and gave up on the project. After trying everything we could think of and finding out how crazy the angle was, it was becoming clear we'd lose the simplicity and cost effectiveness we were striving for.

Then one night while we were working on the boat. my three-year-old son, Justin was sitting in the boat watching John and myself working on an electrical problem and playing with two pieces of PVC pipe and a 60 degree angle pipe that we had tried using before on the board. I noticed how he was placing the 12 inch pipe on top. John stopped what he was doing to watch also, suddenly he said, "Hey, he's given me an idea! Let's see if it works."

We gathered the pieces and I went to get a hack saw. What if we cut back the angle on the 60 degree piece until we get it to where we want it? The 12 inch piece he explained is smaller in diameter than the 2 inch opening in the angle piece, so we got some play inside to work with. We just might be able to achieve the right angle.

We started cutting a little at a time off the 60 degree pipe, cutting, fitting, pushing, bending, then on about the fifth cut, success! The top of the 60 degree angle pipe was sitting straight flush with the gunnel. We placed the board in the top and it was perfect, just like it's supposed to be.

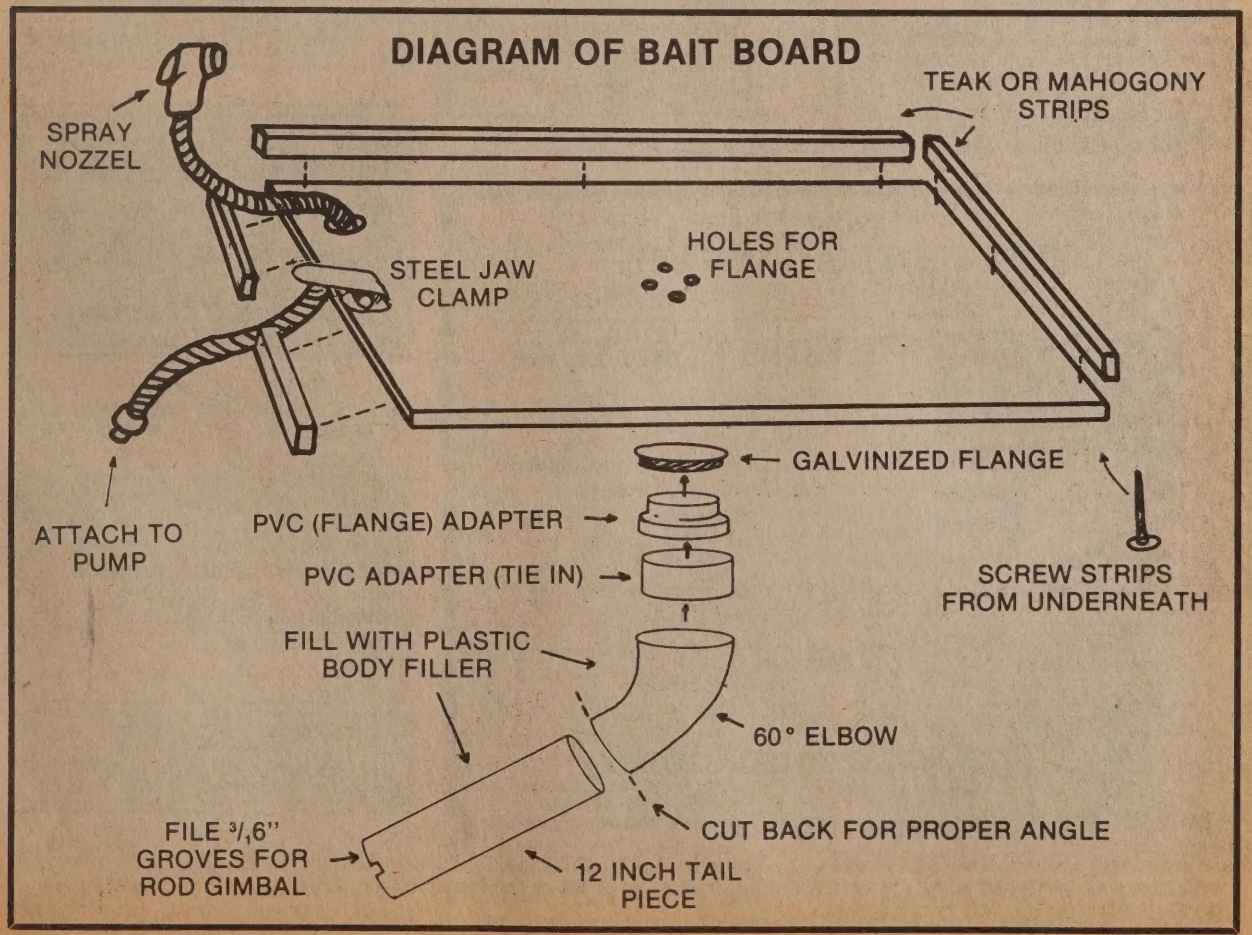
Now we had to attach the 60 degree pipe with its 12 inch tail piece to the board. For this we attached a 1½ inch galvanized threaded flange underneath. To this was attached a PVC threaded pipe adapter. The bottom now attached to the board easily, and we were able to screw and unscrew it quickly, making it easy to store when not in use.

The 12 inch tail piece was filled with plastic body filler to make it more rigid and give it added strength. When the filler hardens use a 3/16 inch rat tail file to cut the crisscross grooves to fit the gimbal in the rod holder, so the board doesn't move once in place. You can now attach a stainless steel jaw clamp at one end of the board to hold your bait or fish while cleaning or chumming. This clamp is available from many mail order catalogs.

To finish the board, we also added an old sprayer and hose, the kind found in kitchen sinks to give ourselves some running water during cleaning and making the cleaning job a lot easier. The hose end was attached to a bait tank pump with clamps in our livewell.

The last item was a towel or rag holder on the side. We found one which has a small eye screw and a clamp shaped like a scallop at its end. The towel was attached to the side for convenience and easy access.

Total cost of our board came to $34 and it'll stand up to any board on the market, not to mention the enjoyment of building it yourself.



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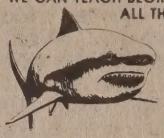

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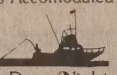

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East End REPORT

with Mrs. Lorry Mangan

Montauk might be closed up tight as a clam right now but members of the Montauk Captains Association are busy this week manning their booth on the fourth floor of the New York Boat Show (New York Coliseum).

Another Montauk captain with a reputation for catching giant tuna will be camped at the Edelman's Booth on the third floor. Stop by and pick the brain of Captain Greg Beacher of the **Dawn**, one of the premier tuna anglers in our area.

Also, a reminder that the **Viking Fleet** is taking part of this winter off. Sailings will resume on Saturday, February 15th, for cod. For more information, call (516) 668-5700.

East End reporter Lorry Mangan reported an increase of codfish beginning Saturday, January 11th on a trip on the Speedy VII. Fifty-one people caught sixty codfish. Two thirds of the fish weighed in the teens and up. Pool fish caught by Carl Trovitch of West Islip, weighed twenty-five pounds. High hook was legendary Charley (Kielbasy) Nitki, who showed all us youngsters how to fish.

South Shore REPORT

with Fred Colofaro

A minimum of activity on the fishing front now with the sole exceptions being some trout and white perch action along with some shots at cod for open boat fans. For those that prefer their fishing under warmer climits, there is always the New York Boat Show. It will run through this coming weekend and there will be members of **The Fisherman** staff at our booth (C-180) on the third floor. Stop by and say hello.

MORICHES BAY & INLET

Another reminder that diehard flounder fans looking for some mid-winter action at the Quogue Canal can still get a boat. **L&M**

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GREAT SOUTH BAY/ FIRE ISLAND INLET

Still quite a few trout coming from Bubbles and Rattlesnake on the Connetquot according to **J&R Sport Center** in **Oakdale**. Many are small but some nice fish to two and three pounds are mixed in as well. A few white perch in the River when it is free of ice. For those looking to improve on their rod building skills, there are few better than John "Rod" DiGiacomo from which to learn. John can also help you with selection of blanks and components. Stop down and say hi.

Cod catches aboard the Captain Scotty three out of Captree were fair Saturday and Sunday, even though Sunday turned snotty and rough early in the day. Skipper George Tweedy's fares bagged thirty Saturday and thirty-five Sunday. Half the fish were ten to twelve pounds and the other half were twenty-two to twenty-five pounds. All action is still on wrecks.

A call came in from Captain Charlie Kennedy of the **Captain Joseph II** and passed on word of Saturday's codfishing which was pretty decent since the weather was likewise, and good weather and good codfishing usually go hand in hand. Charlie said that twenty-five fares took approximately fifty cod. Quite a few of these were ten to twenty pound fish. The pool fish was hoisted by Steve Kearney of Massapequa Park, a thirty-nine pounder. Steve also had four other decent cod. A pollock weighing in at 20 pounds, 5 ounces was carried off the boat by Massapequa Park angler Dave Sauer. Virginia Kilgore bagged a 29½ pounder. Sunday just a handful of fish were caught before the boat had to call it a day due to the treacherous nature of the sea and the wind. All action was on wrecks and there have been very few doggies.

Plenty of activity down at **Augies Tackle Shop** in **Babylon** this month. The shop will be closed through the rest of the month while additional renovations are being made. Already one of the premier shops on the east coast, **Augies** will be even better in 1986, according to Tom Healy.

The crew at **Edelman's** is keeping busy as they too are well represented at the New York Boat Show. Located on the third floor at booths C-165 and C-166, they will have several of the area's top anglers available to answer your questions. Among them are Captains Greg Beacher (**Dawn**), Bob Rocchetta (**Rainbow**), Lou Rosado (**Bullet**) and Penn Rep, Chris Nolte.

West End REPORT
with Stu Miller

The winter of 1986 has started off with a combination of sunny skies, no

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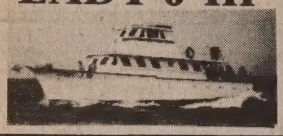

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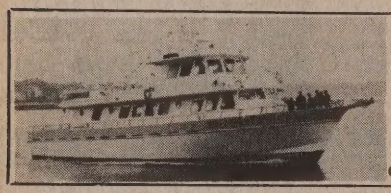

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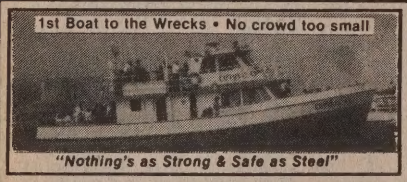

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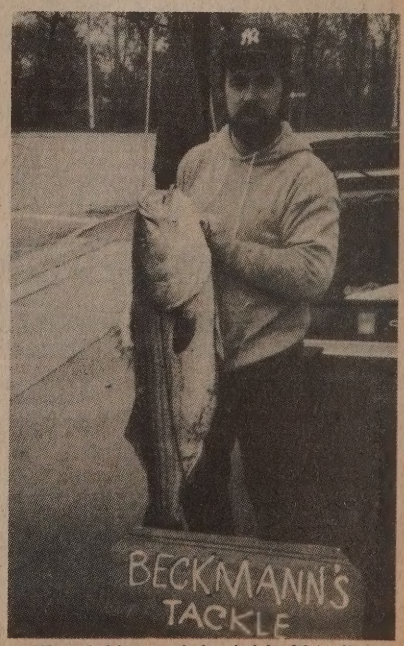

Frank Hay weighed this 39½ lb. surf caught striper at Beckmann's Tackle in Lynbrook.

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rain, but plenty of cold weather and strong winds. The driving winds and low temperatures served to keep many people off the water during this past week, but with things moderating towards the weekend, most of the cod boats sailed and had halfway decent catches. The cod are still strictly on the wrecks and there is word that doggies are around also. The fish are quite decently sized, with pools going into the thirties. Although there has been a shortage of skimmer clams on Long Island's South Shore, our local codfishing fleet, with cunning and ingenuity has been able to get hold of all the clams they need. In the western part of the area, though, mackerel have been taken only in brief shots this past week, the head boats have found the ling and whiting fishing excellent, mainly in the Ambrose area. Blackfishing out of Sheepshead has been only fair this past week, probably due to the weather.

WEST END BAYS/ JONES INLET

A call came in from Captain Frank Signorelli of the Seaford based charter boat **3 Sea-sons** breaking the news that they are having a brand new 31 foot diesel sportfisherman built at the present time which should be up by late March. Frank said this fiberglass beauty tops out at 28 MPH and cruises at 20 MPH. The boat is in its final stages of construction now, and will soon be fully rigged out with state of the art gear, Frank added. He said is now booking charters for 1986. See ad for details.

Out of Freeport, skipper Richie Kessinger of the party boat **Starstream II** told of fair codfish catches Friday, with fares picking fish into the thirties. Catches were very good Saturday, mostly in the morning. The first three drops produced 41 cod and then a few cod additional on each succeeding drop. Fares picked away on Sunday as well, although the rough weather and lumpy sea conditions and screaming wind made it an early day. Pools were in the thirties every trip. On one of these trips, Bill Beckmann, Jr., of **Beckmann's Tackle** in Lynbrook hoisted fourteen cod by himself.

We hear from Captain Jim Lanzarotta of the **Super Spray II** that while the cold windy weather kept sailings to a minimum this week, he sailed with a good crowd Saturday as the weather moderated. By the end of the day, the skipper said that sixty mixed cod were sitting on the deck with the pool winner a gleaming green thirty pounder. Jimmy said it's been all wreck fishing and that there are some doggies around to keep things lively.

Fishing out of Point Lookout, skipper Al Lindroth of the open boat **Capt. Al** said that he still had the wind whistling in his ears and that weather

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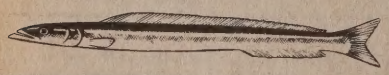

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wise this was really not the best of weeks. He advised that Wednesday's fishing was done at Cholera for the most part but with other drops during the day as well. Fares had cod on each drop, along with a scattering of blackfish and pollock. Thursday was given up to the fierce cold and wind, but on Friday the boat was back pounding local wrecks and picking away on the cod population. In Saturday's moderating sea conditions and weather, customers gathered up over 100 cod. Al said a lot more fish would have been caught if anglers would keep their baits and sinkers quietly resting on the bottom by alternately raising and dipping their rod tips with the wave action. Sunday's fishing was at Cholera and twelve cod and a sprinkling of big blackfish were taken up to 10AM when they had to call it a day due to the nightmarish sea conditions. Al said all you need is weather for these fish.

NEW YORK BIGHT

The Wee Willie report from **Mike's Tackle** in Sheepshead Bay, across from the fleet tells of super action at Ambrose Channel on big ling to three pounds and whiting from one to 1¼ pounds. These great eating fish are being caught in abundance now. The mackerel that were so strong last week have become mere shots here and there this week, and whiting and ling are better eating anyway, according to your reporter's taste buds. Blackfishing has become just fair for the head boats pursuing these buck-toothed critters.

SPECIAL NOTICE:

HEARING ON CAPE COD NATIONAL SEASHORE BEACH VEHICLE ACCESS

On Saturday, January 25th, the Cape Cod National Seashore Advisory Council will hold a public hearing to gather public opinion on the reduced mobile sport fishing access to the Seashore which went into effect last September 3rd. It will be held from 2 to 5 P.M. at the Middle School, Chatham Road (Chatham Route 28), Orleans, Massachusetts. For more information, call the C.C.N.S.S. at (617) 349-3785. The hearing is important to surf fishermen from the area as well as the many who travel from Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York and New Jersey to fish these beaches each season.

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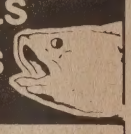

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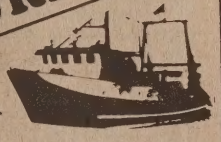

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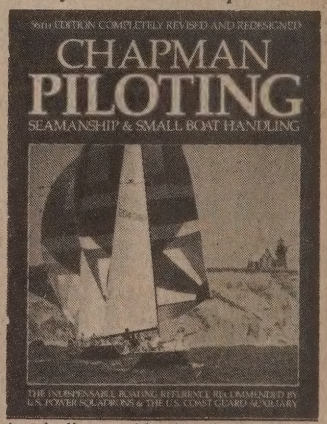

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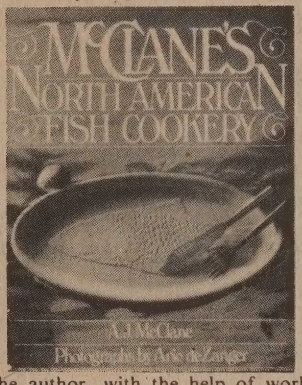

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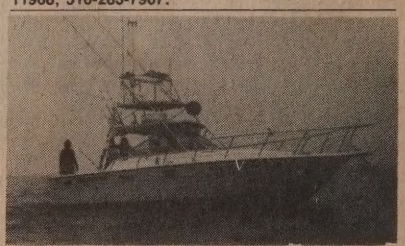

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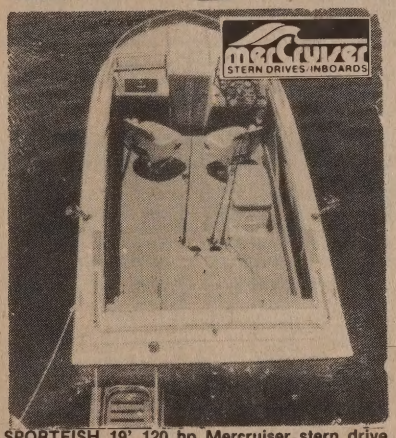

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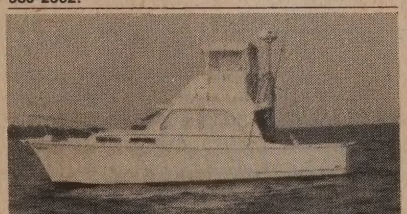

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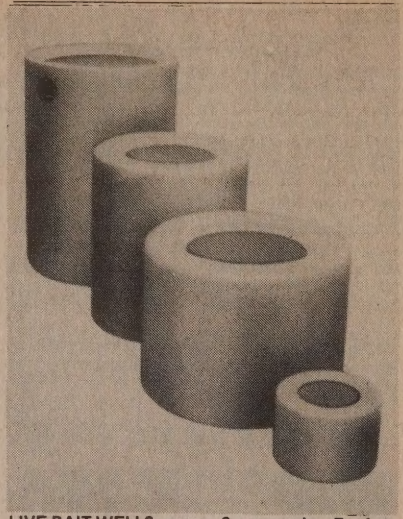

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THE FISHERMAN
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High Tide Tables

How to use tide tables: To compute the high tide for the area you wish to fish, simply find the closest area on the conversion table. Add or subtract the hours and minutes as indicated from that area station above. Example: Shinnecock Inlet . . . −0 50 is listed under "On SANDY HOOK." −0 50 means you subtract 50 minutes from the times given for the SANDY HOOK STATION for the day you are going fishing. This is the approximate time for the high tide in the area. For low tide, add 6½ hours to this figure.

DAY	SANDY HOOK AM	SANDY HOOK PM	BREAKWATER HARBOR AM	BREAKWATER HARBOR PM	NEW YORK AM	NEW YORK PM	NEW LONDON AM	NEW LONDON PM	WILLETS POINT AM	WILLETS POINT PM	BRIDGEPORT AM	BRIDGEPORT PM	NEWPORT AM	NEWPORT PM	DATE
THURS.	—	12:00	12:45	1:00	12:40	12:55	1:40	1:55	4:00	4:20	3:25	3:50	—	12:05	1/16
FRI.	12:40	12:50	1:35	1:50	1:30	1:40	2:35	2:55	4:50	5:20	4:15	4:40	12:35	12:55	1/17
SAT.	1:25	1:40	2:30	2:40	2:15	2:30	3:30	3:55	5:45	6:20	5:05	5:35	1:30	1:50	1/18
SUN.	2:15	2:35	3:25	3:40	3:05	3:25	4:25	4:50	6:45	7:20	6:00	6:30	2:25	2:45	1/19
MON.	3:10	3:35	4:15	4:35	4:00	4:25	5:15	5:45	7:35	8:15	6:50	7:25	3:20	3:40	1/20
TUES.	4:10	4:40	5:10	5:25	4:55	5:25	6:00	6:35	8:25	9:05	7:45	8:15	4:10	4:30	1/21
WED.	5:00	5:30	6:00	6:15	5:45	6:15	6:45	7:15	9:10	9:50	8:30	9:00	5:00	5:20	1/22
THURS.	5:50	6:20	6:45	7:00	6:35	7:00	7:20	7:55	9:50	10:25	9:15	9:45	5:45	6:10	1/23

On Sandy Hook

STATEN ISLAND	+0 27
ATLANTIC HIGHLANDS	−0 01
Red Bank, Navesink River	+1 48
Long Branch	−0 34
SHARK RIVER INLET	−0 18
Shark River Basin	+0 27
MANASQUAN INLET	−0 12
Seaside Park	−0 33
Mantoloking bridge	+5 34
TOMS RIVER	+4 37
Waretown	+2 33
BARNEGAT LIGHT	−0 20
Manahawkin Bridge	+2 33
Beach Haven	+1 47
LITTLE EGG INLET	−0 01
Seven Islands	+0 12
Graveling Point	+1 05
Mullica River	+1 55
Grassy Bay	+1 08
ABSECON INLET	+0 14
Atlantic City Pier	−0 26
Great Egg Harbor Inlet	+0 12
GREAT EGG HARBOR	+0 44
CORSON INLET	+0 09
TOWNSENDS INLET	+0 06
HEREFORD INLET	+0 02
Grassy Sound Bridge	+0 45
Cape May Harbor	−0 02
Rehobeth Beach	−0 07
INDIAN RIVER INLET	+0 41
SHINNECOCK INLET	−0 50
Shinnecock Bay	+1 25
East Quogue	+2 45
Shinnecock Canal	+1 18
Indian Reservation	+3 05
MORICHES INLET	−0 56
Smith's Point	+3 28
Hart's Cove	+1 30
Pontunk Point	+3 35
Mastic Beach	+3 28
FIRE ISLAND INLET	−0 38
Democrat Point	−0 38
Coast Guard Station	−0 19
Fire Island Light	+0 47
GREAT SOUTH BAY	
Sayville (Brown Creek)	+3 39
Heckscher State Park	+3 20
Bay Shore	+2 23
Babylon	+2 12
Amityville	+2 21
JONES INLET	−0 19
Zachs Bay	+1 25
Seaford Harbor	+2 05
Freeport Creek	+0 34
E. ROCKAWAY INLET	−0 06
Long Beach Bridge	+0 19
ROCKAWAY INLET	0 00
Beach Channel Bridge	+0 38
J.F.K. Airport	+0 26

On Bridgeport

Lloyd Point	+0 08
Cold Spring Harbor	+0 08
Bayville Bridge	+0 13
Eatons Neck Point	+0 03
Northport Bay	+0 03
Norwalk Islands	+0 10
Smithtown Bay	+0 08
Cranes Neck Point	+0 05
Port Jefferson Hbr. entrance	+0 03
New Haven Harbor	+0 08
Mount Sinai Harbor	+0 05
Herod Point	−0 07
Mattituck Inlet	+0 05
Horton Point	−0 20
Truman Beach	−0 42
Falkner Island	−0 13
Sachem Head	−0 10
Branford Harbor	−0 07
New Haven Harbor entrance	−0 08
Milford Harbor	−0 07
Stratford, Housatonic River	+0 27
Shelton, Housatonic River	+1 36
Black Rock Harbor entrance	−0 03
Saugatuck River entrance	−0 01
South Norwalk	+0 10
Greens Ledge	−0 01
Stamford	+0 04
Cos Cob Harbor	+0 06
Greenwich	+0 02

On New London

Orient	+0 36
Little Gull Is. (Race)	+0 12
Greenport	+1 04
Southold	+1 43
New Suffolk	+2 26
South Jamesport	+2 32
Shinnecock Canal	+2 33
Noyack Bay	+2 05
Sag Harbor	+0 59
Three Mi. Hbr., Gardiners Bay	+0 21
Promised Land, Napeague Bay	−0 14
Montauk Inlet	−0 25
Montauk Point, north side	−1 13
Niantic	+1 20
Stonington, Fishers Is. Sound	−0 33
Noank, Mystic River ent.	−0 23
THAMES RIVER	
Smith Cove entrance	−0 01
Norwich	+0 12
CONNECTICUT RIVER	
Saybrook Jetty	+1 10
Lyme, highway bridge	+1 24
Essex	+1 38
East Haddam	+2 41
Higganum Creek	+2 54

On Willets Point

Little Neck Bay	−0 10
Execution Light	0 06
Manhasset Bay	−0 01
Hempstead Harbor	−0 11
City Island	−0 03
Rye Beach	−0 28
Port Chester	−0 09
Mamaroneck	−0 08
New Rochelle	−0 24
Davids Island	−0 02

On Breakwater Harbor

CAPE MAY POINT	−0 10
Miami Beach	+0 17
East Pt., Maurice River Cove	+0 53
Egg Island Point	+0 33
Cape Henlopen	−0 05
ROOSEVELT INLET	+0 09
Mispillion River entrance	+0 33

On New York

Jersey City	+0 07
George Washington Bridge	+0 46
Spuyten Duyvil, W/RR bridge	+0 58
Ossining	+1 53
Peekskill	+2 24
West Point	+3 16
Newburgh	+3 42

On Newport

Sakonnet	−1 10
Tiverton (between bridges)	+0 21
Beavertail Point	−0 02
Prudence Is., Sandy Point	+1 10
Bristol	+1 10
Warren	+0 21
Nayatt Point	+0 12
Pawtucket, Seekonk River	+0 21
East Greenwich	+0 16
Wickford	+0 12
Narragansett Pier	−0 08
Point Judith Hbr. of Refuge	−0 07
BLOCK ISLAND	
Great Salt Pond	+0 05
Block Island (Old Harbor)	−0 14
Watch Hill Point	+0 44

Sunrise/Sunset

DAY / DATE:		RISE:	SET:
THU.	1/16	7:25	4:55
FRI.	1/17	7:25	4:56
SAT.	1/18	7:24	4:57
SUN.	1/19	7:23	4:58
MON.	1/20	7:22	4:59
TUE.	1/21	7:22	5:01
WED.	1/22	7:21	5:02

Moonrise/Moonset

DAY / DATE:		RISE:	SET:
THU.	1/16	10:51AM	11:42PM
FRI.	1/17	11:11AM	—
SAT.	1/18	11:33AM	12:43AM
SUN.	1/19	11:57AM	1:45AM
MON.	1/20	12:26PM	2:47AM
TUE.	1/21	1:00PM	3:49AM
WED.	1/22	1:42PM	4:50AM

Moon Phases

NEW	1st Qtr.	FULL	Last Qtr.
1/10	1/17	1/26	2/2

The Original Knight SOLUNAR TABLES

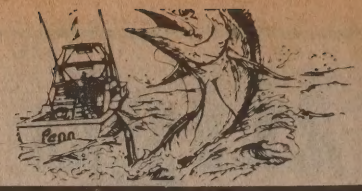
The schedule of solunar periods below will help plan your day so that you will be fishing good areas during the time when the fish should be most active. The tables are not a guarantee you will catch fish, however.

The major periods begin at the time shown and last for 1½ to 2 hours thereafter, and are in the bold typeface. The minor periods are shorter in duration and the lighter typeface.

	AM Minor	AM Major	PM Minor	PM Major
Thurs.	9:50	3:40	10:15	4:00
Fri.	10:35	4:25	11:00	4:45
Sat.	11:15	5:05	11:40	5:25
Sun.	11:50	5:40	—	6:05
Mon.	12:20	6:25	12:35	6:45
Tues.	1:00	7:10	1:20	7:35
Wed.	1:50	7:55	2:05	8:20
Thurs.	2:35	8:45	2:55	9:10

(NOW THROUGH FEBRUARY)

Fisherman's Headquarters



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FISHERMAN'S HEAQUARTERS CUSTOM RODS

Trolling Rod Series - We will modify to your specs if desired

MODEL	CLASS	AFTCO GUIDES	BLANK	SEAT & BUTT	
RG80	80#	Gold SHD	Lamiglass GRT80	B & G Unibutt	$364.95
RG50	50#	Gold HD	Lamiglas GRT50	B & G Unibutt	274.95
RG30	30#	Gold Reg.	Lamiglas GRT30	B & G Unibutt	244.95
RB80	80#	Blk SHD	Fisher 280B	Blk Unibutt	249.95
RB50	50#	Blk HD	Fisher 250B	Blk Unibutt	189.95
RB30	30#	Blk Reg	Fisher 230B	Blk Unibutt	179.95
RC08	80-130	SHD	Solid Glass	ARS 4M-Wood	159.95
RC05	50-80	HD	Solid Glass	ARS3M-Wood	109.95
RC03	30-50	Reg.	Solid Glass	ARS2M-Wood	104.95
RC02	20-30	Reg.	Solid Glass	ARS2M-Wood	102.95

Surf Casting & Plugging Rod Series

MODEL	CLASS	LENGTH/LURE WT.	BLANK	
SAB100CF	Surf-Spin	10'0" up to 8 oz.	Lamiglas	$117.95
SAB110CF	Surf-Spin	11'0" up to 6 oz.	Lamiglas	112.95
SAB130CF	Surf-Spin	13'0" up to 10 oz.	Lamiglas	119.95
CHC100CF	Surf-Conv.	10'0" up to 8 oz.	Lamiglas	124.95
CHC101CF	Surf-Conv.	10'0" up to 16 oz.	Lamiglas	117.95
SHB080FF	Plug-Spin	8'0" ½-3 oz.	Fisher	109.95
SHB080FG	Plug-Spin	8'0" ½-1½ oz.	Lamiglas Graphite	131.95
SHB090FF	Plug-Spin	9'0" 1-3½ oz.	Lamiglas	102.95
SHB090FG	Plug-Spin	9'0" ¾-2¼ oz.	Lamiglas Graphite	159.95

"Surf" rods feature FUJI guides and cork tape handles. They are also available w/FUJI "FPS" reel seats and foam grips...add $12.00 "Plug" rods feature FUJI "HARDLOY" guides and "FPS" reel seats.

DON'T SEE WHAT YOU WANT? ... WE'LL BUILD IT!"

Supply may be limited to our current inventory. We reserve the right to limit quantities.

AFTCO GAFFS

242L	2"x2 ft.	$19.95
253H	2"x3 ft.	25.95
364H	3"x4 ft.	29.95
464H	4"x4 ft.	30.95
466H	4"x6 ft.	35.95
468H	4"x8 ft.	39.95
005L	Tag Stick	21.95

AFTCO STAR SETS
Pre-Set drag control for your PENN & DAIWA reels
$14.95

AFTCO ROLLER TROLLER
TWO PER PACK
$22.95

PENN HT100 DRAG

CUSTOMIZING KITS

G-60SP	for 60, 65, 140, 285	$2.49
G-155SP	for 155, 9, 109	1.99
G-309 SP	for 500, 210, 112H	2.49
G-113H SP	for 113H Series	3.99
G-114H SP	for 114H & 115 Series	4.99

Daiwa

DAIWA REELS TROLLING SERIES

SLT80W	130#600 yds.	$485.95
SLT80	80#800 yds.	409.95
SLT50W	80#600 yds.	324.95
SLT50	50#600 yds.	279.95
SLT30	30#850 yds.	235.95
900H	80#400 yds.	69.95
600H	50#400 yds.	62.95
400H	40#350 yds.	55.95
300H	30#300 yds.	46.95

DAIWA REELS CONVENTIONAL SERIES

50H	30#320 yds.	$34.95
47SH	20#280 yds.	39.95
47H	20#280 yds.	37.95
30SH	20#280 yds.	37.95
30H	20#280 yds.	34.95
27H	14#230 yds.	34.95

SPORTLINE SERIES

SL250H	30#320 yds.	$29.95
SL 175H	20#280 yds.	29.95

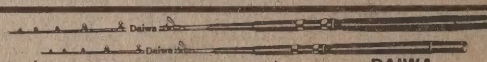
DAIWA SKIRTED SPOOL SENSOR WHISKER SERIES

W7000	17#240 yds.	$99.95
W4000	14#220 yds.	59.95

BLACK GOLD SERIES

BG90	25#275 yds.	$56.95
BG60	17#275 yds.	55.95
BG30	15#250 yds.	48.95
BG20	12#275 yds.	44.95
BG15	10#200 yds.	41.95
BG13	8#200 yds.	41.95

Daiwa



DAIWA TROLLING RODS

9093-80	UNIBUTT	$192.95
9093-50	UNIBUTT	156.95
9093-30	UNIBUTT	145.95
SGC83HRG	HEAVY	69.95
SGC53HRG	MEDIUM	64.95
SGC33HRG	MED.-LIGHT	61.95

BEEFSTICK RODS
SOLID FIBERGLASS

B123GD	7'0"	Boat	$13.95
B172	6'6"	Boat	13.95
B173	7'0"	Boat	13.95
B1225	6'6"	Spinning	13.95
B1235	7'0"	Spinning	13.95

DAIWA STRIKE GOLD RODS

SKG21	11'0"	SURF	$73.95
SKG23H	7'0"	MH-SPIN	36.95
SKG413	7'0"	MED-SPIN	24.95
SKGRH	6'6"	MED-SPIN	24.95
SKG841	6'0"	MH-SPIN	24.95
SKG840	5'6"	MH-SPIN	24.95

PENN REELS

PENN INTERNATIONAL

130	130#850 yds.	$607.95	50W	80#600 yds.	279.95
80SW	New Two Speed	569.95	50	50#600 yds.	244.95
80W	130#625 yds.	422.95	30TW	50#600 yds.	237.95
80	80#750 yds.	364.95	30	30#600 yds.	204.95

PENN CONVENTIONAL

116 12/0	80#800 yds.	$146.95	506HS	15#325 yds.	42.95
115 9/0	80#400 yds.	78.95	500M	30#300 yds.	29.95
114H 6/0	50#525 yds.	66.95	155M	30#300 yds.	20.95
113H 4/0	40#400 yds.	55.95	60	30#275 yds.	20.95
New 112H 3/0	30#375 yds.	44.95	65	30#350 yds.	21.95
505HS	505HS	30#275 yds.	44.95	285M	30#275 yds.	16.95

MAG POWER SERIES

• 990	30#325 yds.	$76.95
• 980	25#325 yds.	69.95
• 970	20#275 yds.	66.95

UNIBUTT STYLE INTERNATIONAL

• IGFA 80W	"Graphite"	$289.95
• IGFA 50W	"Graphite"	246.95
• IGFA 30W	"Graphite"	229.95
• IGFA 80	"P450"	223.95
• IGFA 50W	"P450"	189.95
• IGFA 30W	"P450"	179.95

THRU BUTT STYLE SENATOR SERIES

• 6/0	Wood Butt	$32.95
• 4/0	Wood Butt	30.95
• 3/0	Wood Butt	28.95
• 6/0	Foam Butt	32.95
• 4/0	Foam Butt	30.95
• 3/0	Foam Butt	28.95

SKIRTED SPOOL

• 850SS	25#250 yds.	$56.95
• 750SS	20#250 yds.	53.95
• 650SS	15#300 yds.	48.95
• 550SS	12#300 yds.	45.95
• 450SS	10#250 yds.	42.95
• 430SS	6#200 yds.	33.95
• 420SS	4#225 yds.	32.95

GRAPHITE SERIES

• 250GR	15#200 yds.	$29.95
• 240GR	12#150 yds.	24.95
• 230GR	8#130 yds.	23.95
• 220GR	4#200 yds.	23.95

EAST COAST SLAMMER SERIES CONVENTIONAL SERIES

• SLC70	7'0" HEAVY	$46.95
• SLC66	6'6" MED.	42.95

SPINNING SERIES

• SLSL	7'0" LIGHT	$46.95
• SLSH	7'0" HEAVY	49.95

SHIMANO REELS

TRITON TROLLING REELS (LEVER DRAG)

• TTS80W	80#950 yds.	$292.95
• TTS50W	80#600 yds.	194.95
• TTS50	50#600 yds.	184.95
• TTS30	30#600 yds.	156.95

TRITON LEVER DRAG

• TLD 15	25#350 yds.	$65.95
• TLD 10	20#300 yds.	60.95
• TLD 5	17#275 yds.	55.95

SHIMANO REELS SKIRTED SPOOL SERIES W/FIGHTIN' DRAG

• CGT 6000P	20#275 yds.	$40.95
• CGT 4000P	17#250 yds.	35.95

FREE EXTRA SPOOL COMES WITH THE FOLLOWING FOUR REELS:

• CGT 3000P	12#200 yds.	$27.95
• CGT 2500P	10#SP yds.	27.95
• CGT 2000P	8#150 yds.	27.95
• CGT 1000P	4#175 yds.	27.95

SHIMANO REELS SKIRTED SPOOL SERIES W/"BAITRUNNER"

• TSS 6500	25#250 yds.	$50.95
• TSS 4500	17#250 yds.	42.95
• TSS 3500	12#250 yds.	37.95

BANTAM BAIT CASTERS

• BMG10X	12#110 yds.	$32.95
• BMP250X	12#140 yds.	51.95
• BGX2200	12#140 yds.	63.95
• BGT2000P	12#160 yds.	86.95

SHIMANO FIGHTIN' RODS

SHIMANO SF SERIES W/FUJI CERAMIC GUIDES "REVOLUTIONIZED DESIGN AND PRICE"

...BAITCASTING SERIES			...SPINNING SERIES		
• SF1552	5'6" M	$27.95	• SF2602	6'0" M	$27.95
• SF1553	5'6" H	27.95	• SF2652	6'6" M	27.95

MAGNUMLITE GT SERIES W/FUJI HARDLOY GUIDES

...BAITCASTING SERIES			...SPINNING SERIES		
• GT1552	5'6" M	$39.95	• GT2552	5'6" MH	$39.95
• GT1553	5'6" H	39.95	• GT2603	6'0" MH	39.95
• GT1581	5'8" ML	39.95	• GT2652	6'6" M	39.95

MAGNUMLITE XL SERIES WITH NEW GOLD FUJI HARDLOY GUIDES

"NEW TOP-OF-THE-LINE SERIES • 20% LIGHTER THAN ORIGINAL"

... BAITCASTING SERIES			... SPINNING SERIES		
• XL1602	6'0"	$53.95	• XL2602	6'0" M	$53.95
			• XL2652	6'6" M	53.95

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